

RECREATION

Formerly THE PLAYGROUND

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.

— February 1935 —

Municipal Rose Gardens

By Ernest K. Thomas

New Trends in Park Planning

By John Noyes

An Old-Fashioned Valentine Party

By Marion Shelmerdine

Quickening the Little Theatre Movement

By Clarence Arthur Perry

Volume XXVIII, No. II

Price 25 Cents

RECREATION

Published by and in the interests of the National Recreation Association
formerly named Playground and Recreation Association of America

Published monthly

at

315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Subscription \$2.00 per year

RECREATION is on file in public libraries and is indexed in the
Readers' Guide

Table of Contents

	PAGE
Leisure Time Recreation, by Frank Kingdon	511
The Intercollegiate Outing Club Association, by Leon E. Magoon	515
Cities Protect Winter Sportsmen, by Marion Holbrook	516
A New Method of Protecting Ice Rinks, by Agnes W. Spring	519
Suggestions for Conducting Social Games, by H. F. Kilander, Ph.D.	520
Quickening the Little Theatre Movement, by Clarence Arthur Perry	521
Municipal Rose Gardens, by Ernest K. Thomas	525
The Public Library in the Program of Leisure Time	530
An Old-Fashioned Valentine Party, by Marion Shelmerdine	532
New Trends in Park Planning, by John Noyes	536
A County Recreation Exposition	540
And for a Backdrop the Tyrolean Alps! by Lucile Hoerr Charles	541
A Field House 100 Percent "Play-full," by Arthur Leland	544
World at Play	545
Magazines and Pamphlets	548
Dr. Myron T. Scudder	550
New Publications in the Leisure Time Field	555

Entered as second-class matter June 12, 1929, at the Post Office at New York, New York,
under Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in
Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized May 1, 1924.

Copyright, 1934, by the National Recreation Association

Kidnaping Less Likely in "A Friendly Universe"

KIDNAPING a child is almost the most cruel crime. Just now each night nearly every one in America reads the details of one such crime as the trial of a person accused of kidnaping takes place. There are those who suggest the whipping post as the best means of preventing such crimes! Make an example of the guilty and fear will deter others!

Under such conditions as are faced today recreation workers may well ask themselves the question whether playground and recreation center activities under the government in our cities can be so directed as to make kidnaping less likely. Is it not likely that boys and girls growing up from day to day in recreation centers where they are thoroughly happy in learning to do the things they really want to do, where they joyously carry on certain activities "just for fun" will think of their government and of society and of people not as their enemies, but as their friends?

Many of an individual's contacts with government are not particularly friendly. The police function is essential, but much of the time not pleasant. The fire department renders great service, but associations again are not often pleasing. Health regulations are irksome. On the other hand, every one wants to live, every one wants a measure of comradeship, some one to talk to; occasionally even there are persons who are willing to listen to others talk. Nearly every one wants adventure, romance, a chance at friendship. If government and society in general can be associated in the average individual's mind as friendly, as doing something positive for happy living, not merely as negative policing—then the individual thinks more in terms of "The Friendly Universe."

Economic security, provision for old age, for sickness, for emergencies, is important, but it is not all. Most men cannot live happily without warm human contacts. There is much talk of one mechanical universe, of the way the modern world substitutes machines for more personal services. Are recreation workers in their understanding of the religious, literary, artistic history of mankind, continuously, perhaps unconsciously, striving to create a more friendly universe, such that men cannot so easily treat any fellow men cruelly and inconsiderately?

Many crimes could not be committed by individuals with quick imagination, with warm human sympathy. Coldness, indifference to one's fellow men, callousness are essential, if one is to be a kidnaper. Suppose in the municipal community recreation centers men have sung the old folk songs together, have danced together, have themselves participated in dramatic plays requiring and developing imagination, suppose they have learned games which they have played with their own children, have learned what human ties can be built in happy homes, suppose they have learned the joy of creating beautiful objects with their hands, of nurturing flowers, shrubs, suppose life to them is full and rich and satisfying—will it not be harder to think of kidnaping, to think of breaking up other homes? Will not violence and greed likely be more difficult?

The world is complicated. There is no one way out for crime prevention. And yet recreation centers have their contribution to make in creating and keeping happy normal human beings. The degree of success depends in part, of course, on the quality of leadership, the kind of personality and character of the leaders themselves. Nearly all men want to live in "A Friendly But Not Too Friendly Universe" such as recreation centers help to build.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

FEBRUARY 1935



Courtesy Girl Scouts, Inc.

Leisure Time Recreation

By FRANK KINGDON
President, Dana College

THERE ARE AT least three kinds of leisure that we shall have to face. In the first place there is the leisure of the young people who normally in their school life have a certain amount of time in which they can do as they like. Their problem is not particularly different from the problem that faced you and me when we were youngsters, except that with the large concentration of population, the children of the cities have an altogether different kind of a situation facing them in their leisure time from what faces a child growing up on a farm. It isn't any less interesting. I am frank to admit that I happened myself to be a city boy and was born and brought up in the city, so that I spent my leisure time on the city streets. And when I hear sometimes those who were brought up on farms telling about all the occupations and all the delights they had, I think they pale in some ways into significance by comparison with the fascinating delights that a child on the city streets has, with all the kaleidoscopic changes of city life going on about him, with construction work going on, with all kinds of traffic proceeding, with the pagentry of the city's life continually unfolding before his eyes.

Nevertheless, there is a distinct problem there as our cities grow larger and larger, as population becomes more and more concentrated, a very definite problem of handling the leisure time of the children.

Now the second kind of leisure time is that which belongs to those who are employed but who have more leisure time than they used to have. Their leisure time is pretty largely a time for relaxation from the work which they have

Dr. Kingdon's address, published here through the courtesy of the *New Jersey Municipalities* in which it originally appeared, was given before the annual convention of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities held in November 1934.

been doing. It is the time when they can lay aside the normal routine of every day work and give themselves over to whatever pleases them. That is a very distinct question of leisure.

But there is a third kind of leisure time which I suppose will be increasing in

importance in our social structure, and that is the leisure time of those who are never to be employed again. It is a perfectly amazing fact how many people there are in our American life now who are unemployed and who will never again be employed in the normal channels of industry. How many of them there are, nobody knows. Suppose that we accept the figure of the American Federation of Labor that there are now something like 10,800,000 people unemployed. I think that it is a fair estimate to say that of those practically eleven million people, there are at least five million who will never again find employment in the normal channels of industry for various reasons. In some instances, the shifts in industrial locations have moved an industry out of a given region, but left the population behind, a population that has been trained in particular skills that will have no relation to their future life, men who have been trained so long in those skills that they can't easily shift to another group of skills.

Then there are those who have grown old during the depression. Remember that a man who is 45 years of age is practically out so far as the large industrial concerns may be considered. He will never again be able to find the active place which he was able to find, in the industrial structure.

Social Dangers in Leisure

So there are these groups of various kinds who will never be employed again, and they represent a very large amount of leisure time which has to be provided for. It is one of the **curiosities** of our growing human life, that as we progress and when I say "progress"—I mean by "progress" the continual mastery of our environment, the ability to control our world more and more effectively. As we progress along those lines and increase our power, there does come an increase in leisure. As there comes an increase in leisure there comes the danger that that leisure will be used for purposes that are not desirable. And so progress always carries along with it the threat of degeneration. I suppose that while there have been a good many explanations of the fall of ancient civilization, that one of the explanations is unquestionably this, that civilizations up until our time have never learned how to use their leisure time constructively. Leisure time has been merely a time of indolence, merely a time of laziness, moral flabbiness has come into the social structure because people have been idle. And as a result of that moral flabbiness there has been the progressive decay of civilization itself.

Now it is one of the paradoxes of our human life that as we gain in mastery we continually create new problems, and it may well be that leisure has a great many dangers in itself for us. I think it does have some very definite dangers, that if we are not careful, the leisure time of our people, the increasing leisure time, will become a liability to the state and to the nation. For example, if we treat these men who are forced into idle time through no fault of their own, if we force them to think of themselves as be-

ing somehow less virtuous because they have this time to do as they like with, we shall be wounding their personalities.

And at that point I want to say this, that leisure time does not necessarily mean time for loafing; it doesn't necessarily mean idle time. What you mean by leisure time is time which a man has and which he can use without being under the compulsion of economic pressure to do a certain thing. In other words, leisure time is that time in any man's life when he can do exactly as he likes. It may be the time when he does the thing that he does best; it may be the time when he discovers himself more fully than he can discover himself at any other time; it may be the time when he makes his major contribution to society. Inventors, for example, are very likely to use their leisure time for prosecuting the particular investigation in which they are interested, and out of that may come something that may be of particular value to society.

What I am trying to say is that as we think of leisure time we must think of it not merely as time wasted, but as time in which certain capacities of men which cannot find expression in the normal channels of industrial life, can come to the surface and express themselves. Unless we get an attitude like that toward

leisure we may work very great damage to the personalities of these men who are forced to idleness even though they do not themselves want to be idle.

Then I think there is a social danger that leisure time lends itself to, uncritical, unintelligent social unrest. When men are idle their unleashed imaginations are uncontrolled imaginations; their social discontents, unintelligent social discontents can come to the surface and express

"There are sleeping geniuses, but even if there are not sleeping geniuses there are sleeping talents, sleeping delights"



Courtesy Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home

themselves in a dangerous way. I don't mean by that that I am opposed to social discontent. I think social discontent is a very excellent thing because it is a part of that universal human discontent which has made all progress possible. If men weren't discontented with things as they are, they would never be any better than they are. But there is a difference between a really critical and intelligent discontent, and an uncritical and unintelligent discontent, a difference between the uncontrolled emotional approach to social questions and the controlled and persuasive critical approach. One social danger that lies in leisure is the fact that during leisure time there may come the unleashing of these merely emotional discontents which may be working against society.

I suppose I need not speak of crime. Leisure time easily lends itself to the prosecution of crime; and easily lends itself to the development of certain unsocial recreation so that anybody looking at the general question of leisure can see immediately that if we leave it alone, if we don't do anything about it, this increased leisure time may become a very serious liability in the whole social structure. Ordinarily I think when we look at it we think of it in those terms.

I don't know how many people, when we have been discussing social questions somewhere, have said to me, "How are you going to deal with this new leisure; isn't this new leisure itself dangerous?" The answer is that if we don't do anything about it, it is dangerous and may be the very basis out of which the destruction of society itself may come. But it doesn't need to be that. It is only that if we drift into this whole question of leisure and do not really face the thing positively and control it.

Guidance Needed

No sailor yet ever drifted into port. If you drift you simply end in disaster and chaos. There is only one way to save yourself from that kind of a conclusion, and that is to set a goal and steer for it, to set your course and then follow that course right through to the end that you want to reach. If society is not going to be overwhelmed by the very leisure which the

"Leisure and human happiness — there is a significant and more than casual relationship between these two. It is only with leisure we are able to taste happiness. It is only with leisure we are able to measure in any human terms at all the value of living."—*Arthur Newton Pack* in "The Challenge of Leisure."

mastery of society is producing then it must take thought concerning leisure and it must do some constructive planning for leisure. It may be that by controlling leisure, instead of making it a liability we can turn it very decidedly into an asset. But as you

know, if we are going to do that, with most people they are going to need guidance, they are going to need very definite guidance.

You can't expect the average man who has been trained in a philosophy of work, who has been taught to look upon idle time as time in which he merely does nothing, or the nearest thing to nothing that he can do—let us say play bridge—but the average man when he thinks of leisure simply looks upon it as a time more or less to be wasted; and, trained in that kind of thing, you can't expect him suddenly to take hold of this new leisure time and make out of it something constructive. He has got to be guided. And that is why I think, in response to this growing need, there has grown up the emphasis in our communities on recreation. Now the word recreation itself is rather a dangerous word. When we think about recreation we are likely to think of some kind of game, we are likely to think of playing something that we used to play when we were children, and probably that is a part of the process. But that isn't all of it.

One of the most amazing things I know is the capacity in ordinary groups of people or individuals in whom you never expected it, to express themselves through some kind of creative artistic work. I told you that I was born and brought up in the streets of a city—and I was—in the slums of a city, and yet I can remember as youngsters what we used to do. I can remember one of my pals who had a violin, and he would work by the hour to try and get some music out of that violin. And as I recall it he never quite succeeded. Nevertheless, very few people do, as far as that is concerned—but he was trying to express something in his spirit that was to come out through that violin.

I can remember another one of those youngsters who liked to take putty and mould that putty into some sort of statuary, trying to make it look like somebody he knew, or trying

to put into that moulded putty some form that had impressed itself on his imagination. I remember a boy that I used to go to school with, and we used to meet every morning to compare how our stories were coming along—we were both writing the “novel of the century” at the time. What has happened to both of them, nobody knows. But that isn’t the point. The point is that there were two little city kids who were trying to express a creative drive that was in them—pitiful, of course—but it was not only pitiful, it was magnificent that out of the mud of the city there could come music and statuary and creative writing, even though it be of a very poor kind.

That is the thing that makes me have confidence that in the great masses of our people there is something more than just the mere submissiveness, the mere indolence, the mere worthlessness, that sometimes we allow ourselves to see in them. There are sleeping geniuses, but even if there are not sleeping geniuses there are sleeping talents; there are sleeping delights in those peoples’ lives, and as leisure time comes along, if we can give it the proper direction we are going to cull out some of those talents and introduce into those lives some of the joys that otherwise they would not have. And that is what this whole recreational program means. It isn’t just simply that somebody is going to learn how to chin a bar, or somebody is going to learn how to knock out a home run, or anything of that kind; it is that a constructive program is going to be worked out in our total community life so that these sleeping powers in our community may come to some kind of expression.

Obviously

when you are dealing with a new thing like this you are bound to face a lot of mistakes, and I presume that in your municipalities you have sometimes found that the recreation director has not known exactly where he was going, and that you haven’t been able to decide just exactly what the program was all about. That is perfectly true and there is nothing abnormal about it at all. When you are experimenting with new social forces, new social methods, you are bound to have periods of discouragement, periods when the methods that you have tried do not seem to be the true methods. But what I want to drive at and to put into your minds, is this, that when you are dealing with the right kind of direction—for it is increasingly sure that you are not dealing merely with some fad, merely with some frill of municipal life, but that you are dealing with something which has a contribution to make to our total community spirit if it can be worked out in terms of social vision and social intelligence.

Sometimes when we are dealing with the administration of finance, and I have to face it in the administration of a school, as you have

(Continued on page 549)

Volley ball games in Chicago, played along the beach front at Jackson Park



Courtesy Parks and Recreation



Courtesy Boston and Maine Railroad

The Intercollegiate Outing Club Association

By **LEON E. MAGOON**
Executive Secretary

COLLEGE STUDENTS of the last two decades have shown an increasing interest in the recreational opportunities offered by college outing clubs. The activities sponsored by these organizations range from roller-skating to mountaineering, from winter sports to horse shows, and the ever increasing number of participants in these fields is a significant demonstration of the manner in which the younger generation is preparing for the new leisure. These interests, developed in college, lead to lifelong enthusiasm for the outdoors and instill a genuine appreciation of the beauties of nature.

To help broaden the scope of the outing clubs the Intercollegiate Outing Club Association was formed. This association is an informal organization of the outing clubs of twenty-two colleges, the present membership being Antioch, Barnard, Bates, Colby Junior, Connecticut, Dartmouth, Jackson, Maine, Massachusetts, Middlebury, Mount Holyoke, New Hampshire, Pembroke, Skidmore, Smith, Swarthmore, Tusculum, Union, Vassar, Wellesley, Williams and Yale. Its purpose is too keep the different outing clubs in touch with each other to the mutual benefit of all. This is done largely by issuing a bulletin three times a

year, holding an annual conference, a mid-winter ski week-end, and sponsoring College Week and

joint trips.

The I.O.C.A. was started in May, 1932, at an outing club conference held under the auspices of the widely known Dartmouth Outing Club on top of Mt. Moosilauke in New Hampshire. The association was conceived by Ellis B. Jump, Dartmouth '32, and it was due largely to his efforts that the Dartmouth Outing Club held the first I.O.C.A. conference at which the association was organized, and later sponsored it through its first trying years. The officials are an executive secretary and an executive board of two, who plan and run the annual conference.

The association, through its executive secretary, publishes an I.O.C.A. *Bulletin* three times a year containing the reports of the member clubs' activities, conference notes, equipment suggestions, and future plans of the association. This publication has already proved a valuable means of exchanging ideas and is the best way of keeping informed about what is going on in other clubs.

The annual conference of the association, held the first week-end in May of each year, is the

(Continued on page 550)

Cities Protect

WHEN SNOW comes again to make the winter beautiful there's an exciting tingle in the air. Boys and girls watch the first light flakes anxiously. Maybe it's just a flurry after all. But when it starts to snow thicker and faster and the flakes are as large as pennies and of the quality that packs into stout snowmen, they know that it's time to haul sleds up the cellar stairs and beg a piece of mother's clothes line to replace last year's frayed and knotted rope.

Next morning the world is white and they start off, their sleds bumping along companionably and the snow crunching pleasantly under foot. Soon the winter festival of outdoor sports is in full swing.

When the Coasting Season Comes

As soon as the coasting season arrives, boys and girls claim as their own the hills that provide the best grades and the longest slides. When the city has made it possible for these hills to be given over to them for certain hours of the day, coasting is a safe and healthy sport. But when the hills must be shared with automobiles, trucks and street cars it would be better for coasters if snow never fell on those particular slopes. An editorial on unprotected coasting places, which appeared in the *Boston Transcript* several years ago, was aptly headed "Down the Hill to Death." Every winter death continues to waylay coasters on hills open to traffic.



Photo by Hans Bittner, Berlin

By MARION HOLBROOK

Winter Sportsmen

Many cities have stopped the more serious coasting accidents by closing certain hills to traffic for six or seven hours a day, including the late afternoon and early evening when most coasting is done. Permission to close the streets is secured from the city council, the city manager, or the police commissioner, as the case may be, but frequently the streets are set aside by an ordinance. The following ordinance to regulate

coasting has been passed in Fulton, New York:

"No person shall coast upon any public street, sidewalk, lane, alley, avenue, highway or public walk within said city upon any handsled, bobsleigh, or similar device, except upon such streets or sections of streets as shall be designated by the mayor, who shall at the time of designating any such streets or sections of streets also designate the length of time, not exceeding four months, during which such streets or sections of streets shall be so used, and cause a notice of such designation to be published in the official papers, and such designation may be revoked during such period in the discretion of the mayor. . . ."

Streets selected for coasting should be completely closed to traffic if possible. In some cities only cars driven by persons living in the closed blocks are permitted to enter. Automobile clubs have cooperated by sending to members a notice describing the restricted hills. Business houses using trucks might instruct drivers to make deliveries in the restricted blocks during non-coast-

ing hours. When it is impractical to close an attractive hill, it should be covered with ashes to prevent coasters from risking their lives in its traffic traps.

The hill with few intersecting streets is, of course, most desirable, and if it is a city of many hills, safe coasting places should be set aside in the various neighborhoods so that no child will have to walk more than a few blocks from his home. During coasting hours the street should be closed at both ends and at all intersections with unmistakable barriers. Rope or wooden framework, on which a large stop sign is placed in the day time and a red lantern at night, is used as a barricade. Ashes placed at the bottom of the hill and at all crossings will keep sleds from continuing under the barriers and will prevent coasters from turning their sleds into side streets.

Any movement to safeguard boys and girls usually wins the prompt cooperation of the community. In one city a contractor donated the barricades; the street department placed them and kept the lanterns filled, and the officers in charge of the hills put them in place when they came on duty. During non-coasting hours they were turned back. In this Pennsylvania city eight hills were set aside for coasting and no serious accident occurred, although total attendance for a season was as high as 50,000.

Closing a hill to traffic does not solve all the accident problems. The hill should be supervised by a policeman or a man sworn in as a

At the risk of being repetitious we believe it is worth while each year to point out some of the hazards involved in winter sports and to reemphasize the safeguards which will go far to remove the dangers from winter fun without detracting from its joys. The article presented here has been reprinted from the January 1935 issue of *Safety Education*.

special policeman. A school boy patrolman may be assigned to this duty if he has the proper authorization from the police department. The supervisor should be at the hill a few minutes before the coasting hour to put up the barriers and see that no early arrival is tempted to coast while the

street is still open to traffic. Coasting hours are usually from 4:00 P.M. to 10 P.M. on school days and are frequently lengthened to include the morning and early afternoon on Saturdays and Sundays. At the close of the period the man in charge removes the barriers and, if he is genuinely interested in his job, lingers a moment to see that every sled is started on its homeward journey. He knows that the clear night and the swift track are tempting, but one stolen slide after the street has been opened to traffic may defeat the safety program.

The coasting supervisor's word is law when disputes or disorderliness occur. Unless prevented by some person in authority, older boys frequently take possession, pelt coasters with snowballs, attempt to upset sleds and indulge in other pranks that make coasting dangerous. All spoil-sports and rule breakers should be banished from the hill. If a few general rules, such as the following, are explained to the coasters and rigidly enforced, everyone will have more fun and there will be fewer accidents.

Small sleds should be given the right of way.

Big bob sleds should be given a start of at least fifty feet.

Small sleds and large bob

This game known as "Eisschiessen," is exceedingly popular in Bavaria



Photo by Hans Büttner, Berlin

Young citizens of Germany agree with young Americans that coasting is a great sport!

sleds should go on separate trails if possible, or the small sleds should go down while the bob sleds are returning. The greater speed of the bob sleds creates a hazard for the single coaster.

Coasters should go down on the right side of the street and back on the left.

But the big hill is never a safe place for little brother and sister. Their coasting should be done on the home lot. A. B. Horwitz, city planning engineer of Duluth, Minnesota, says in an article entitled "Safe Winter Coasting Hills," which appeared in *RECREATION*, February 1933, "A slide as short as twenty-five feet, with a built-up snow mound for a good start, will keep a youngster under six happy for hours daily. Where there is some slope to the ground the home lot may afford a slide of considerable length. Permission for temporary use of vacant lots can ordinarily be obtained. Several slides can be built on such a lot and various age groups served separately." If there is danger of sleds traveling into a street or driveway, a snow bank or belt of sand or coarse sawdust can be used as a stop.

Skating Safeguarded

When parks provide hills for coasting, tobogganing and skiing, the beauty of the winter landscape combines with safety to make winter sports inviting. Playgrounds, municipal golf courses and tennis courts have also been made to serve year round duty as sites for slides or artificial skating rinks during the months when they are ordinarily deserted. When these winter playgrounds are under the supervision of the recreation department, as they frequently are, boys and girls will



Photo by Hans Bittner, Berlin

find competent instructors to help them develop skill in their favorite sports.

As sure as 32 degrees Fahrenheit means freezing, youthful skaters will venture on thin ice this winter with tragic results. Where no artificial rinks are provided, skaters should wait for the signs that are usually posted in public places, announcing that the ice on lake or river is safe for crowds. Shelter houses are often provided at these skating areas and equipped with ropes, ladders, poles and other devices to be used in case of emergency.

The element of security in safe hills, safe ice, toboggan slides and ski jumps won't take the edge off the sport. It ensures good times and allows young people to get the most benefit out of hours of play.

One of the best ways to make safe winter sports popular with the young people of the community is to organize carnivals which will attract large numbers to the hills or skating rinks approved and protected by the city. Once they have learned the advantage of these spots they will want to return. In one city a successful feature of a winter festival held on one of the safe coasting hills was a prize offered for the most attractively decorated sled.

A New Method of Protecting Ice Rinks

By AGNES W. SPRING
Fort Collins, Colorado

WITHIN the past three years ice hockey has become an established winter sport in the Rocky Mountain region in spite of the fact that there has been little natural ice on streams or lakes because of the exceedingly mild weather. Four years ago, however, hockey players at the University of Wyoming at Laramie discovered that it was possible, through the use of sacks, to protect their ice rink from the onslaughts of the sun. They could, they found, prolong skating even when the ice everywhere else was practically gone. So successful was the Wyoming experiment that hockey teams at Fort Collins, Longmont, and other Colorado cities immediately erected sack screens at their rinks.

At first the sacks were hung on straight wires. This did not prove satisfactory, as the wind whipped the sacks around the wire, making it necessary for the players to unwrap, almost every morning, about 3,000 yards of burlap hung at each rink. Now, at the municipal rink at Laramie, a woven wire ceiling is used, the wire being similar to hog wire. The sacks—some 4,000 yards of them—are suspended from this ceiling in rows, and, when the wind blows, they merely

flap against the wire and fall back into position. This burlap sack method of protecting ice is

simple and inexpensive. It has proven that hockey can be enjoyed in Colorado, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, and northern New Mexico, at altitudes ranging from around a mile high upwards even though temperatures are not low enough to insure lake skating.

At Fort Collins, with an altitude of some 5,000 feet, natural ice of excellent quality has been maintained because of the shade obtainable from the burlap curtains. Using a base of sawdust the Fort Collins hockey enthusiasts created a rink with about two inches of solid ice which remained frozen for a long time. Another inch of top ice took care of the regular daily wear and was flooded each night after the players were through.

The Fort Collins ice proved to be of such splendid texture that although many times water was standing on it at 6 o'clock in the evening and the thermometer stood at 50 degrees, by 8 o'clock, with the temperature at 40 degrees, skaters were able to use the rink. Last year while the natural lakes around the city were all open, the hockey players en-

A view of the rink at Fort Collins showing how the burlap is suspended

(Continued on page 550)



Suggestions for Conducting Social Games

At the Essex County, N. J., Leisure Time Institute of the ERA, Dr. Kilander made the cheering announcement that the good old days of informal and inexpensive amusements are returning. He offered a number of suggestions for making parties successful.

By H. F. KILANDER, Ph.D.

Dean, Panzer College
East Orange, N. J.

HUMAN BEINGS are very gregarious; that is, they like to associate with others of their own kind. It is the exceptional individual who prefers his own exclusive company, and such persons we call hermits and recluses. Wherever people gather together, some form of social entertainment will inevitably be devised to help pass the time away and to make the social relationships more enjoyable. The average party or gathering of today uses one or several of the following types of diversions: conversation, music, social dancing, card playing, physical games and social games. This discussion will consider the last of these.

In recent years there has been a change back to those informal and inexpensive forms of amusements which are readily adaptable to different groups and situations. There has been a desire on the part of many to get away from the type of entertainment which is mainly limited to social dancing and card playing, both of which are so prevalent today. People are again finding fun in entertaining themselves with social games like their parents and grandparents did. Games such as Tea Kettle, Fruit Basket Upset, Murder, Treasure Hunts and the many others may seem childish to many people since they are largely played by children. But these games can be of equal entertainment and fun to adults and groups of mixed ages when and if they are played in the right spirit.

You have undoubtedly observed that identical games and other diversions go over "big" on one occasion and not so well at another time or place. This is not a matter of chance or coincidence, but is influenced by the individuals who are present

and especially by the individuals who are in charge of the planning and the directing of the program. We have all noticed that a party at the Smiths' does not go so well, that at the Jones' it is nearly always a success, that whenever John Brown is present things seem to go a little more smoothly and lively, and that when the Johnson family is along there is always an abundance of laughter. Just what is it that makes these differences?

The following list of suggestions on how to run or direct a program of informal social games may be helpful in making a party full of fun, laughter and relaxation rather than one of boredom and disinterest. The suggestions are particularly intended for the host or other person who is in charge of the program. A good leader who is original, resourceful and alert will sense when or when not to apply these hints. The particular occasion may be a child's birthday party, an evening with your own circle of friends, a group of young people at a church party, a social evening at school or the social entertainment in connection with a club or Parent-Teacher meeting:

1. **Plan the Program.** Have all equipment such as paper, cards, pencils or games prepared beforehand. Have more games in mind than may be used. Know how to play the games.

2. **Let All Be Participants.** Use games wherein many or all may take part. Divide a large group into several small ones or have several "it" at one time. Games of elimination, even when they permit many to participate, are not as desirable to play unless they are interesting to watch. Start a new game for those who are eliminated if the first game lasts too long.

3. **Keep the Games Moving.** Be ready to change to a new game before the present one becomes

(Continued on page 551)

Quickening the Little Theatre Movement

By CLARENCE ARTHUR PERRY

Russell Sage Foundation
New York City

AS A MEMBER for many years of a little theatre group I have often felt a need that is not generally met by the conditions now surrounding amateur production. That is the need of competent, detailed criticism and evaluation *after* a bill has been presented. During rehearsals the players, if they have a vigorous director, generally receive an adequate amount of critical comment. But after the last curtain has gone down and the production is a decaying bouquet, it is seldom that a player is ever told by one who knows, just how good or how rotten his work was. His friends may shower him with compliments and he may be mentioned by the local press. But that sort of chatter does not usually satisfy his innermost need.

In an art or craft the novice progresses by making a series of tries and by modifying each successive attempt in the light of guidance afforded by a master. But for this mentor the apprentice would make but little progress.

The amateur producing groups connected with colleges and high schools which possess dramatic departments are pretty well provided with expert guidance. But those without a dramatic faculty and the independent groups—and these constitute about a half of the whole amateur theatre—are sadly handicapped in respect to competent criticism. These are mostly voluntary bodies, spread all over the country, active only a part of the time and generally in a bankrupt or nearly insolvent condition. How can authoritative evaluations be brought to bear in an acceptable way and in more abundant volume upon their productions?

In tackling this problem it is evident at once that there is no feasible method of carrying this expert criticism all the way to each hamlet and province where these groups now live. They must, so far as possible, be assembled in sectional bodies to receive it. That immediately suggests the little theatre tournament. This device not only affords evaluations of a sort but

it is in itself an efficient quickener.

Many a quiescent amateur group has been spurred into vigorous activity through the announcement of a dramatic tournament. The prospect of a new audience, the itch to measure abilities, the possibility of prize money with its aid to future activity, the effect of publicity upon memberships and subscriptions, the contact with other groups during the contest, the impact merely of a definite new goal—considerations such as these put new life into many hundreds of producing groups during the years of tournament activity just preceding the crash.

A Possible Plan

The effect of the plan now to be suggested would be both to stimulate the holding of tournaments and to introduce into the tournament program those critical features which would add greatly to its efficiency as an aid to technical and artistic advance.

Main Features. The operation of this plan would involve the following:

(1) The setting up of a national organization which might be called the "American Guild of Little Theatres" (hereafter shortened to "Guild"). This body would establish, as one of its activities, an honorary order that would be open to little theatre groups on the basis of excellence as demonstrated in a tournament presentation. Membership would take place through the award of a diploma by the judges of a tournament.

(2) An offer by the Guild to furnish the services of three persons of distinction in the theatrical world to act as judges of sectional tournaments, awarding not only the usual prizes but diplomas of membership in the above-mentioned honorary society.

(3) The addition to the ordinary tournament program of conferences designed to afford greater opportunities for competent discussion of production problems and the exchange of dramatic experience.

Mr. Perry, who is the author of *The Work of the Little Theatres*, presents here what he has termed a "unique philanthropic opportunity." We shall be glad to receive comments on Mr. Perry's plan which offers a number of features that should be stimulating to Little Theatre groups.

The Conferences. This last feature would be brought about through the offer by the Guild of the services of its three judges as speakers and discussion leaders at open sessions interpolated between the tournament presentations. That fact being clearly understood by the local management, it is certain that full advantage would be taken of the knowledge and experience of the distinguished visitors. In addition to the discussion of set topics there would be question-box hours in which the amateur players would secure answers to their more technical questions.

The second discussion feature that is proposed might be called a "post-mortem" session held to evaluate all the tournament presentations. This would be programmed to follow the final awards and to take place while all the tournament teams were still in town. In this occasion each of the productions in turn would be candidly and fully analyzed by one of the judges. Both its virtues and its shortcomings would be set forth in precisely the temper and the manner employed by the director of a college drama department after one of its own student productions.

Any person who has been among a group of players immediately after their performance cannot fail to have noticed in their

eyes a pathetic hunger for comment. Perhaps it is the desire for recognition, but it would be a shallow analysis of this feeling to see in it only a wish for praise. They want praise—yes—but only for that in their work which is praiseworthy. They have just had applause. Their friends give them only applause—if they give them anything. What the best of them crave is a word from someone who knows, indicating what was good and what was bad in their performance. They want both a basis for hope and another target to shoot at.

An appraisal of all the productions of the tournament in the presence of an assemblage which has just witnessed or participated in them would represent an opportunity for dramatic instruction of inestimable value. That it would most effectively increase the pulling power of the tournament can hardly be doubted.

Starting the New Plan. The method for bringing about these improvements in tournament procedure is simple. The Guild would announce the plan for the new honorary order and offer the services of its judges to those tournament organizations which met its conditions. These requirements might be increased as experience indicated further improvements in

"The Giant Stairs"—the prize winning play in a one act play tournament in New Haven.



tournament technique, but at first they would involve mainly adapting the local contest period to the itinerary of the Guild judges and the inclusion of discussion periods in the tournament program during and after the contest. Where local circumstances precluded these discussions it would not be necessary to insist upon having them.

Qualifications of Judges. In view of the exceptional tasks laid out in this scheme for the judges, their qualifications become highly important. The presiding judge would be a full-time paid officer of the Guild and his associates would be two individuals whom he had engaged (under a per diem compensation arrangement) from the region of a particular tournament. Generally, he would select new associates in each region, but special circumstances might necessitate the use of one or both of his associates in more than one region.

This full-time officer of the Guild might be its president or its executive secretary—in case there were some individual whom it was desirable to honor as an unpaid president—but in either case his qualifications should be of a high order. He should be a real personage in the dramatic world; he should be a first-rate play director, and he should also have some of the distinctive qualities of a practical organizer (that is, a business man) and a teacher. He should believe in this plan and experience an emphatic release of energy and ability in promoting it.

The two associates he would select from the various regions to act with him in judging productions should not only be experienced directors but should have the ability to state the basis of their judgments candidly and with an authority that would invoke the gratitude of the individuals whose work was under discussion. The fields from which he could pick his jury colleagues would include the faculties of leading schools of drama, professional directors in both little and commercial theatres, and the active members of boards of managers of such bodies as the Theatre Guild of New York. All the judges should have the ability not only to make sound dramatic judgments but to analyze their impressions and state clearly and objectively the basis of their ratings. They should be able to agree sufficiently upon standards and rating methods so that they could state awards in arithmetical terms capable of summation and reduction to averages.

Before a contest is started, the presiding judge would distribute all the plays entered in the tour-

ment among the judges, himself included, and instruct each one to be prepared to report publicly upon the plays assigned to him in the session following the final awards. This post-mortem session would be open to all the players, directors or coaches, or authorities interested in the tournament.

Standard for Diploma Awards. So far as can be foreseen now the only practicable opportunity for judging the work of groups and awarding the honorary diplomas would be in connection with tournament presentations. The maintenance of right standards in judging candidates for membership in the honorary or diploma order would be the special concern of the presiding judge and of the board of directors whose policy he would strive to carry out. Obviously the best policy would be to set the standard of performance at a level which, though high, could be achieved by the best of the individual groups that were not under continuous instruction or engaged in regular occupation with the theatre. A plan for interpreting and applying such a standard would have to be worked out by the three judges, and the person who would attempt to carry that standard from one region to another would be the presiding judge. If there should be a national finals tournament, that occasion would often permit valuable comparisons of the correctness with which awards were being made in the various regional contests.

It can be admitted at once that no system of judging exists which would result in awards that were universally acceptable. Charges of unfairness, favoritism and insignificance would now and then be made. The same statement is true as respects the advanced degrees of universities, court decrees and the awards of distinguished academies in science and letters. Despite, however, the inevitable shortcomings in human judgments, the stimulus to achievement afforded by an honor-conferring body justifies its existence.

In the ordinary play tournament there are usually only two or three chances to win an award, but in the contest carrying the tournament feature every contestant has a chance to win something.

The majority of the tournaments are now held in the spring months. Enough have, however, been held in the fall and winter months to demonstrate that there is no inherent difficulty in spreading out tournament activity over the whole theatrical season. Allotting two weeks to a region and additional time for the Christmas holidays,

nine regions could be covered in five or six months. There would also be time enough for a meeting of regional winners in a national finals if such an event were arranged.

The Tournament As a Regional Conference.

Another attractive aspect of this plan is that its tournaments would actually constitute highly effective regional conferences. Regions as large as the districts mapped out, for example, by the National Theatre Conference might not always be fully represented, but for the groups which could attend in any one district the meetings would be extraordinarily helpful. In the first place, the representation from a group would include not only the director, or its leading spirit, (usually the only ones sent), but also its more prominent players. Again the traveling expenses of a team entered in a tournament are more easily managed than the expenses of delegates to a conference. For the former, the group can give local money-raising performances with greater enthusiasm, and if they win any sort of award at the tournament the publicity from it enables them to put on the same play for a profitable "run" at home and restore their depleted treasury. Thus the tournament occasion brings into the dramatic forum the younger and more active element of a group as well as its maturer and more experienced leaders.

Removing Academic Prejudice. Contests organized under the plan outlined would naturally attract an unusual amount of newspaper publicity. The high reputations of the men devoting themselves to judging little theatre tournaments would come to the attention of college trustees and members of boards of education and give them a new realization of the importance of drama as a method of education. Such university and high school authorities as attended the tournament discussions would inevitably be impressed with the value and dignity of this work. In these ways the new activity would help greatly in removing the academic prejudice which in certain quarters still holds back the little theatre movement.

Work on Clearing House Problems. During these travels and close contacts with little theatre groups, the executive officer of the Guild would pick up a great deal of first-hand information regarding their real wants and natures. With such knowledge as a basis he would be in an excellent position to formulate practical measures for the development of central clearing house services.

During his home period he could give attention to such problems and all the various ways of promoting the little theatre movement.

Manner of Support. In the beginning, and perhaps for a long time, the salary of the executive officer and the per diem compensations of the associate judges as well as their traveling expenses, would have to be borne by a grant or subsidy from some public spirited individual or institution. Whether or not a part of the expenses could be borne by local groups would remain to be seen. Certainly all the support which could be obtained from them without detriment to the effectiveness of the work should be obtained.

In thinking about the method of supporting this plan there is a fundamental distinction which may well be borne in mind. Society is roughly divided into two classes—the immature and the adult. The cost of the care and training of the first class is usually a gift. The great bulk of the little theatre groups of the country are in the earlier stage of development. They cannot pay for their education. The stimulation and the enrichment of the tournament occasion provided for in this outline is of a purely educational and developmental character. It is an essentially paternalistic procedure and as such belongs properly in the class of activities which customarily enjoy philanthropic or public support.

Increasingly Little Theatre groups which are genuinely community projects are springing up throughout the country in both large and small cities. York, Pennsylvania, whose Little Theatre was created about three years ago under the auspices of the Department of Recreation, recently appointed as Director of the theatre Carl Glick, who has had long and successful experience in this field. The group is now holding its rehearsals and giving its plays in school buildings but it looks forward to the time when it will have its own playhouse. Two plays have been presented thus far this season—"Gold in the Hills" and "Outward Bound." Members of the group have also written some short plays which have been broadcast over a local radio station.

The Little Theatre is supported by small contributions and by the sale of tickets to the performances, ranging in price from \$.50 to \$1.50. Anyone in the community may be a member of the Little Theatre and may take part in the plays, provided he demonstrates his ability.

Municipal Rose Gardens

Park departments, by creating an environment of beauty and peace, are helping materially in counteracting the mental strain of the depression.

THE MOTTO of the American Institute of Park Executives is "To make more abundant, facilities for a more expressive life for all." Park systems all over the country have been providing such facilities in ever increasing numbers, and it would take much space just to name the many activities and services of an educational or recreational nature maintained by the average municipal park department today for the benefit of the public.

In these difficult times, when so many of our people are under considerable mental strain due to unemployment, it is interesting to note that larger numbers than ever before seem to get more physical, mental and spiritual refreshment from that part of our municipal parks which provides an environment of peace, quiet and beauty, than from any other facility such as athletic fields, golf courses or areas provided for active forms of recreation.

Urban communities are an unnatural environment for the *genus homo* anyway. As the population of towns and cities increases, the stress and strain of modern living conditions make it imperative that ample provision shall be made in park systems not only for active recreational areas but for adequate retreats where the public may get close to nature and realize that, even in congested communities, man may, in conjunction with mother nature and the application of sufficient skill and energy, encourage the green grass, orna-



By ERNEST K. THOMAS
Superintendent of Parks
Providence, R. I.

mental trees, shrubs and beautiful flowers to grow. In such areas all classes of people, young and old, may realize that they, even as the roses, may stand firmly on the friendly earth, lift their faces to the sun, and receive physical and mental refreshment which helps them to meet the problems of the day with renewed courage.

Park departments by their displays of floral beauty have done much to encourage home gardens and thus help to beautify towns and cities. Excellent collections of trees, shrubs and flowers of various kinds may be found in many park systems. Rose gardens are maintained by a number of municipalities and there is no one feature that attracts more attention or is enjoyed by so many people as a good collection of roses, well grown and placed in an appropriate environment.

According to the secretary of the American Rose Society, there are between seventy-five and eighty municipal rose gardens in the United States maintained by park departments and botanical gardens. There should be many more, and no park system is too small to have one. If finances are not available, public-spirited citizens may often be encouraged to bear the expense of establishing one. Horticultural societies and garden clubs may be depended upon to help; also such service clubs as the Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis and others.

Locating a Rose Garden

The location of the rose garden needs careful consideration. It should be placed where those who will come to see it can be accommodated comfortably. There should be plenty of parking space nearby, and it should be in an appropriate environment. An open space in a woodland trail, or where the landscape features are more or less naturalistic, may not be desirable. A location adjacent to more formal planting, or where it would not be in such a contrast to natural beauty, would be more desirable.

Roses need plenty of sunshine, although this does not mean that they must have full exposure to sunshine all day. If they get sun for at least half the day most varieties will bloom satisfactorily.

Locations near trees or hedges are not impossible if the roots of the trees and shrubs that may get into the rose beds are cut once a year by digging down two or three feet on the side of the rose bed nearest to them. If trees and shrubs with many surface roots get into the beds, they may rob the soil of plant food and moisture to the detriment of the roses.

A location protected from cold winds is desirable, although not absolutely necessary, for many hardy varieties; buildings, hedges and fences may often serve as windbreaks.

Roses of Different Types

A municipal rose garden should have in it a number of varieties of the different types of roses. The following are the most popular today:

Tea Roses. The tea roses are low growing bushy plants fifteen to thirty inches high; they bloom abundantly in June and less freely throughout the summer and early fall. They are not hardy in the northern states; in the southern states and in California, they do well. In other sections where the winters are not too severe, the

tea roses may be grown if given sufficient winter protection.

Hybrid Perpetual Roses. The hybrid perpetuals are bushy in form, from two to six or eight feet high, more vigorous in growth and hardier than the tea roses. They may be grown practically everywhere, except perhaps in the very coldest sections of the United States, with sufficient winter protection. They produce good size flowers of many different colors and most of them are fragrant. They flower abundantly in June and some of them give a few flowers in late summer or early fall. As a class, they should be grown more extensively. Hybridizers and growers are developing new hybrids and we expect that they will soon become as popular as the following class, the hybrid teas, are now.

Hybrid Tea Roses. This class is the result of crossing the tea roses with the hybrid perpetuals. They grow from two to four feet high, and may be grown over the same wide territory as the former class with some protection in the winter season in the coldest sections. It is this class of roses that is perhaps most popular due to the fact that more new hybrids and varieties have been put on the market than of the other classes. There are probably over three thousand varieties listed by rose growers; many of them will pass out of existence because they do not meet the highest standards demanded by the public today.

New varieties are being introduced every year and there is much time and money spent in advertising them. While the popularity of this class of roses is merited because there are scores of very lovely varieties available to the public, other classes are just as worthy and are much more desirable for certain purposes than the hybrid teas.

The hybrid teas bloom most profusely in June and many of the best varieties continue to bloom more or less freely through the summer and early fall months. Practically all shades of color are represented in the flowers including one that is almost black, recently introduced, and called the "Black Rose of Sangerhausen."

Polyantha Roses. The polyantha roses, sometimes called baby ramblers, bloom continuously from June to late fall. They form low bushes, many of them not over two feet in height. There are varieties that produce clusters of small flowers; others have blooms similar to the hybrid teas, and still others have sprays of single flowers. Al-

most all colors except yellow may be found in this class, including orange.

Climbing Roses. All of the foregoing types of roses may be secured in climbing form; that is, the same types of flowers are produced on long canes that may be trained over arches, porches or on pillars. There are tender varieties that do not survive the winters in northern states and can be grown successfully only in the southern states.

The hardy climbers may be grown over a wide area and, with a little protection in winter, most of them will survive in sections where the winters are quite cold. Even when severe weather kills back the canes, as happened last winter in many parts of the country, they will often send up new canes from the roots to replace the ones damaged.

The climbers bloom for a few weeks in early summer. Recently hybridizers have announced the introduction of varieties that bloom sparingly and more or less continuously after the first early summer display. The hardy climbers are sometimes grown as hedges, or on banks to prevent soil erosion.

Shrub Roses. As the name suggests, this class grows more or less like woody shrubs. They are used just as shrubs are used, as specimen plants, in shrub borders or as hedges; some of the varieties are excellent for planting on steep banks. They are hardy and vigorous, and they grow from four to ten feet high or more. They produce single and more or less double flowers in white, pink, red and yellow colors.

There are many other types or classes of roses, including species, varieties and hybrids, that are being used by hybridizers in crossing with the classes briefly described above. These patient workers are striving to breed roses that will be immune to diseases, perfectly hardy, and have a longer season of bloom.

There is quite an interest now in making collections of old roses; that is, varieties that were cultivated many years ago and which have been forgotten in the avalanche of new varieties that have been widely advertised in more recent years. Some of the older varieties of all classes of roses are unsurpassed by many of the more recent introductions.

Selecting Varieties

There are a large number of varieties of roses in each class now available. In making a selection for planting in the municipal rose garden, the park executives and local or nearby nurserymen will know best which varieties are adapted to any locality. The secretary of the American Rose Society can be of great assistance not only in selecting a representative group of varieties in each class but in making suggestions for the layout of the garden. There may be private estates in the community where roses are grown extensively; if so, the owners or their superintendents will help in making the selection.

Soils and Fertilizers

While roses will grow and flower in almost any kind of soil if it is well drained, except perhaps a very stiff heavy clay and without much preparation, they will respond to thorough preparation of the soil. Of more importance than the kind of soil is the question of drainage. Roses, like most garden plants, do not like "wet feet." If water does not drain naturally, the soil becomes water-logged, especially in the winter time, and there will be much loss through winter killing of the plants. If the soil is not well drained, put in tile drains.

The beds should be dug out at least two feet deep. If there is any question about

The Lady Alice Stanley in Roger Williams Park—showing how the varieties are plainly labeled



the drainage, dig out six inches more and put in a layer of clinkers, rough gravel or coarse ashes. All the old books recommend the use of well decayed cow manure for the rose beds. There is nothing better if it can be secured. A layer of six or eight inches of well decomposed organic matter in the bottom of the rose beds is desirable. It holds moisture and plant food, and encourages the deep rooting of the roses; this enables them to withstand hot summer weather. If none of these are easily obtained, then use the peat and manure sold at seed stores; put a layer three or four inches deep in the bottom of the bed after removing the top soil.

The best kind of soil for rose growing according to the older gardeners and the recommendations found in old garden books and magazines is a "clay loam soil." This means a good loam with a little more clay in it than sand. In spite of the advice contained in recent books and of some modern writers who claim this is not necessary, it will usually be found that, where there are some particularly fine roses grown, the soil is of this character.

Very satisfactory results may be secured, however, with a light sandy loam soil if it is enriched with organic matter by placing a layer at the bottom of the bed, as suggested above. If the dehydrated peat and manure is used and the soil is rather light and sandy, some of it may be mixed with the top soil also. Fine ground bone meal and lime should also be mixed with the top soil; use about five pounds of bone meal and three pounds of lime for each one hundred square feet of bed. If the soil for the rose beds could be prepared a week before planting, it would be desirable. After digging out the top soil, the bone meal, lime and the peat and manure could be mixed with it and the whole allowed to stand for a few days before placing it back in the beds.

The Purchase of Roses

There are nurserymen who specialize in growing roses and they take pride in selling good stock true to name. Many of them are so sure of the quality of their plants that they offer to replace any plant purchased from them that dies during the first winter. Roses purchased from indiscriminate sources at cheap prices cannot be expected to be anything but cheap. For best results, therefore, it is advisable to secure plants from sources that are reliable.

Three or four plants of a variety should be purchased rather than one plant of several varieties. This makes a better showing and you get a better idea of a variety if there are at least three or four plants of each growing in a bed.

The hybrid tea roses may be planted about eighteen to twenty inches apart; the hybrid perpetuals, which grow a little larger, may be planted twenty-four to thirty inches apart.

Climbing roses will be planted where needed. If grown on pillars, fences, posts or arbors, they may be spaced six feet apart. Order two-year-old, budded and field-grown stock for the most satisfactory results.

When to Plant

The teas, hybrid teas, hybrid perpetuals and polyantha varieties may be planted in beds by themselves. A row of the polyanthas may be used on the outside of the beds in which the taller growing hybrid perpetuals are planted if desired. A dozen bushes of each variety make a good showing and give the public a good idea of what each variety looks like. The beds should not be more than five or six feet wide so that the center of each may be reached easily when spraying or cultivating.

The shrub roses and the species may be used in the borders around the outside of the rose beds, and the climbing varieties trained on arches and pillars.

Planting may be done in the fall or very early spring. In the South, early spring may mean February, and the North early in April. In the very coldest sections, spring planting may be advisable. In the South, late autumn may be preferred. For a large intermediate section of the United States, fall planting is probably advisable for several reasons as follows:

Plants ordered for fall planting will be dug up from the fields by the nurserymen and shipped to the customers in a fresh condition. If roses are not ordered until the early spring, the plants received will probably have been stored in sheds for the winter and they may be more or less dried out when received. Outside of the warmer sections, nurserymen have to dig the plants in the fall and store them for the winter in order to be able to make shipments to meet the rush of orders that usually comes to them in early spring because the ground may be frozen or too wet to enable the grower to get plants direct from the fields for the spring orders.

Roses and many other plants begin to lose some of their vigor as soon as they are removed from the soil, due to the evaporation of moisture from their tissues. The shorter the time, therefore, between lifting the plants in the nursery and planting them in home gardens, the better for the plants. Parts of the roots are covered with very fine root hairs that absorb moisture and plant food from the soil. They are soon destroyed when removed from the moist earth and exposed to the air. When planted in the early fall, new root hairs soon develop, and the roots become established with the soil particles quickly and before hard freezing weather may be expected.

When planting is delayed until spring, there may not be time for the roots to become well established in the soil before the buds start to grow and there is a demand on the root system to supply moisture and plant food to support the new growth. If this demand cannot be met, growth may be retarded and the result may be a poor showing of flowers the first year.

In early spring, there may be delay in planting due to the fact that the soil is too wet or the frost may not be out of the ground. If plants have to stand around waiting for a suitable time to get the roots into the soil, the delay is not helping them. This should not happen even if the roses are ordered for fall planting. As soon as the plants are received, open the package and heel them in; that is, dig a trench and place the roses in it; cover the roots and most of the canes with moist soil until ready to plant them in permanent positions in the garden.

The soil is warmer in the early fall than in the early spring; this fact is conducive to a more rapid root growth and the plants get well established in the soil before severe winter weather comes. Then, just as soon as the growth starts in the spring, the roots are ready to supply moisture and plant food to the unfolding buds, and the plants develop strong new growths which will bear handsome flowers the first year.

How to Plant

If the planting cannot be done immediately as soon as received, the roses should be "heeled in" as explained above. Cut back any bruised roots that may appear and shorten the largest canes to about eighteen inches. Dig holes in the prepared soil large enough to accommodate the roots when spread out laterally, and firm the soil down over the roots with the feet when planting.

The depth to place roses in the soil is indicated by the soil line on the stems; that is, it can be seen just what part of the stem or cane was covered by soil because the color of the part below the soil will be lighter than that above.

The point on the rootstock where the buds were inserted, or the junction of the canes and the rootstock, is shown usually by a slight swelling. This point should be just beneath the soil when the planting is done; that is, not more than two inches below the surface soil.

When the plants are all in place, cut back the canes to six inches above the soil. In the spring, the canes should be shortened again, if there is no winter injury, to not more than two buds. After planting, water the bed thoroughly to settle the soil around the roots of the plants.

Winter Protection

In sections where hard freezing weather occurs, especially in the very cold sections, winter covering of the rose beds is necessary. The amount of the covering needed depends on the types of roses planted and the severity of the winter weather. It often happens that roses may be injured more by bright sun, cold drying winds and alternate freezing and thawing in the winter season than by low temperatures.

Late in the fall, mound the soil up around the base of the canes to a depth of six inches. After the first hard freezing weather, tie the canes up with twine and place a foot of leaves, hay or straw around the plants and over the soil in the beds. Use stakes and strong twine if necessary to keep the covering in place.

Climbing roses may be taken down from the arches or pillars, laid on the ground and covered with soil and leaves in the same manner, if local experience indicates that this is necessary to keep them through the winter months without injury.

Spring Pruning and Feeding

In early spring, remove the winter covering. Sprinkle a little complete garden fertilizer over the soil and, when dry enough, level off the beds, raking the fertilizer in. Cut back the canes to not more than two or three eyes. Three to five canes are enough to leave on each plant. This hard pruning of the bush roses produces strong growths bearing large handsome flowers of good quality and should be repeated each spring except that

(Continued on page 552)

The Public Library in the Program of

A statement presented by the Board
on the Library and Adult Education
of the American Library Association

Leisure Time

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY is now much more than the book depository which perhaps still characterizes it in the minds of a portion of the public not accustomed to using it. Many people in this category would perhaps gladly use it if they realized what a variety of specific helps it could bring them in the costless pursuit of their amusements, hobbies, avocations, and studies. Library activities have so expanded in the last quarter century that they now involve much more than books. Emphasis on service to the recreational, cultural and educational interests of the people is now causing libraries to deal with many things besides books. For example:

Starting places for leisure-time pursuits. They have become general information centers on almost any topic which may happen to interest an individual at any time. Trained personnel and a broad range of printed material are at the service of any one who wants to select a hobby or avocation, who wants to know the best book or pamphlet to buy on his already chosen hobby and where to buy it, who wants to borrow either a primer or an advanced discussion on this hobby. The library is the ideal starting place for the pursuit of almost any hobby or avocation.

The community storehouse of avocational information. It can also be the guide and the coach as he progresses in the pursuit. Librarians began saving interesting printed matter on each man's hobby before he himself came upon his hobby. They can produce in a few minutes a few choice pieces of informational material that would have taken him perhaps months or years to learn of and acquire, including out-

of-print material that he could not obtain now at any price.

Something in print on practically every hobby. At first thought it may seem that printed matter and libraries are remote from such leisure-time pursuits as archery, hiking, athletic sports, pets, linoleum block printing, paper crafts, and collecting, but there are a number of full-sized books on each of these topics, in most cases for both the amateur and advanced practitioner. It little occurs to people of action that there is anything in book form that would be interesting or informative to them in the field of sport, or handicraft, or amusements. They will be surprised in looking over the comprehensive "Finding list of hobbies" in Earnest Elmo Calkins' *Care and Feeding of Hobby Horses* to see for how many of these the author gives names of two to a dozen books which will tell things about a hobby that the hobbyist had not known or thought of.

Practically every game, sport, avocation, amusement, handicraft, hobby, or field of study given in Mr. Calkins' "Finding list of hobbies" is somehow represented in print; if not in one of the full-sized books which he lists, then in some other book, pamphlet or magazine article. There are many books that gather under one cover information on whole groups of hobbies or amusements—books of entertainments, of children's games, of floor games, games for parties, special occasions, special age groups, miscellaneous card games, books on the several winter sports, on miscellaneous and less familiar athletic sports, comprehensive books on things to collect—encyclopedias

Inquiries and suggestions received by the American Library Association from recreation, education and library workers indicate that a brief statement pointing out the various ways in which the library—especially the public library—can contribute to leisure-time programs would be welcomed. Most of the possible library contributions mentioned in this article are familiar and obvious, but a reminder list may prove suggestive to both librarians and planners of community leisure-time programs.

of a kind on sports, games, recreations and other activities.

Experts talk to us at the library. There are few fields of human knowledge or experience where some proficient person has failed to divulge the results of his years of practice and his advice to beginners through the medium of a book or pamphlet. Most of us covet the privilege of talking over our hobbies and avocations with an expert, but we little realize that that expert's advice in orderly and compact form is available to us in some library.

Information on local leisure-time activities. Libraries are also becoming information centers for news of all kinds of recreational, educational and cultural opportunities available in and beyond the community. Their bulletin boards carry posters, announcements, programs and newspaper clippings about lectures, concerts, hiking clubs, group meetings, evening schools, home study courses, formal educational opportunities, civic programs and activities, educational radio broadcasts, outstanding magazine articles of the month, art and museum exhibits, amateur dramatic and choral societies and travel opportunities. In addition, many libraries keep ready reference files of detailed information about such activities, so that the individual inquirer after a specific kind of opportunity can learn quickly just what is available to him.

A place to spend leisure hours. Libraries provide quiet rooms where anyone with an hour or a day of leisure may "drop in," browse among shelves of books, magazines, or newspapers, and sit at a table to read, write, study, look at pictures, or simply invite his soul. The books on the open browsing shelves of such rooms are a selected few from the great mass of a library's book stock which are considered most apt to be popular, interesting, timely, and needed. These privileges are free to all, whether registered borrowers and local citizens or not, and involve no registering, routine, or red tape.

A town hall. Library buildings are being equipped with auditoriums and lecture halls which are available—usually without charge—to non-profit making study groups, discussion clubs, forums, musicales, exhibits of all kinds, radio listening groups, lectures, educational movies.

Pure recreational reading. The library has much to offer in the way of escapes for those whose minds are troubled because they have either too

much or too little leisure. The great range of available fiction can take one into almost any imaginary world that the moment makes congenial.

Many travel books are now written for the same general purpose: to carry the reader with the Martin Johnsons to Africa, the Harry Francks to the Andes, the Richard Halliburtons to all kinds of places. There is also, in these times, such a thing as exploring with scientists via books.

Biography is of a new kind today and allows the reader temporarily to live the life not only of soldiers, statesmen, men of letters and of prominence, but of plain people, vagabonds, aviators, courageous women, researchers and every-day folks who did an every-day job well. Biography affords something more than escape—it frequently affords inspiration as well, and gives better hints on how to live than do the success books.

The library offers more than books in these and similar fields. It now provides skilled personal guidance in finding just the book needed by each different individual.

The leisure time of children. For years children have made the library one of their main recreation centers. They literally swarm in the children's rooms of libraries in after-school hours and at times almost strip the shelves of books. It is quite certain that the attraction here is recreation rather than study.

Another library offering to children is long famed—the story hour, where skilled assistants tell or read aloud stories to large groups of the younger ones on Saturday mornings.

The leisure time of adolescents. Libraries have for some years also been addressing themselves to the leisure-time problem of the 'teen age. Some larger libraries have special rooms, especial book collections and specially qualified staff for this age range, just as most libraries have for young children. Most fair-sized libraries have at least a special nook or set of shelves for young people. Librarians have been studying the problem of how to give special attention to these adolescents without seeming to emphasize the youngness about which some of them are sensitive. There are a variety of experiments in how to lead the youngster into the intelligent use of adult books by imperceptible steps.

Learning things as a leisure pursuit. Mr. Calkins, under the heading of "Learning things" (his

(Continued on page 553)

An Old-Fashioned Valentine Party

THE INVITATION to this Valentine party should be in keeping with the party. To make a very old-fashioned invitation, like those in vogue many years ago, take an ordinary envelope, tear it open carefully and place it on a large sheet of cream colored kindergarten paper. Draw around the envelope with a pencil. Cut this out, write the invitation on it with red ink, fold into an envelope with the writing on the inside, and seal with red sealing wax. Here is a little rhyme which can be used:

We're going back,
Say, three decades or four,
Come dressed in costumes
Your grandparents wore.

Name Date

Address

A more elaborate invitation may be made in the following manner: Take an ordinary orchid correspondence card and on it write the invitation in flowing, shaded script in lavender ink, leaving enough space in the upper right hand corner to place an old-fashioned bouquet. Make the bouquet by pasting a gathered piece of old lace around a circle, about an inch in diameter. Then, inside the circle, apply paste and sprinkle with vari-colored wool which has been cut into very fine pieces. This will give the floral effect for the bouquet. For the stems either lines of green ink or pieces of heavy green floss can be used. Be certain to use lavender sealing wax on the envelope.

Decorations

The color scheme should be carried out in lavender and ivory to be in keeping with the Lavender and Old Lace theme. A little thoughtful planning will help to give the proper atmosphere and setting and will do much toward the success of the party.

Strings of different colored hearts may be suspended diagonally from corner to corner. Crepe paper in lavender and ivory may be cut

By MARION SHELMERDINE

Supervisor of Girls' and Women's Activities
Department of Public Playgrounds and Recreation
Reading, Pennsylvania

into strips and draped around the lights and lamps, fastening the paper at the top allowing the streamers to hang free. To add a final touch, use plenty of silhouettes and lighted candles.

Matching Partners

The Key to Your Heart. A clever way to find partners is arranged in this manner. The hostess prepares as many hearts as there are couples, cutting the hearts out of cardboard or heavy paper. From the center of each heart a key is cut; all keys are of different shapes and sizes. The keys are given to the boys and the hearts to the girls. The boys are told that they are to find the girl who holds the heart which, with their key, they can unlock.

Notwithstanding the fact that St. Valentine's Day is a celebrated holiday, its origin is quite vague. There is a theory that the martyred priest of Rome, St. Valentine, had nothing to do with the custom, but that it originated long before the introduction of Christianity. Many years ago wolves were especially dangerous, and a destroyer of them was held in honor. And so the old Romans held a celebration called the "Lupercalia," in honor of Lupercus, the wolf destroyer. At this festival it was customary for the young people to draw lots for partners for all the year following. This custom continued until the third century.

Valentine was a Roman priest who lived during the time of the persecution of the early Christians and at the time of Emperor Claudius, commonly called Claudius the Cruel. During this period wars arose outside of Rome, and Claudius called all his citizens forth to battle. The married men did not want to leave their families, nor those who were engaged, their sweethearts. On hearing this the Emperor became very angry and decreed there should

Lover's Salad. This method of matching partners was popular when our grandmothers attended this sort of gala affairs. Tissue paper in various shades of green is cut and crinkled to represent lettuce leaves. Slips with famous lovers of history are pasted on the "leaves"—the girl lovers' names on the boys' "leaves" and the boys' names on the girls'. (One platter is prepared for the boys and another for the girls.) The "lettuce" is then passed and each guest is allowed to take one "leaf" from their respective platter. They all then try to find their lovers. Here are some suggestions:

John Alden and Priscilla	Dante and Beatrice
Romeo and Juliet	Jack and Jill
Hiawatha and Minnehaha	Paul and Virginia
Napoleon and Josephine	Punch and Judy
The Prince and Cinderella	Ivanhoe and Rowena

Fortunes

Grandmother, dressed as she might have been forty or fifty years ago, is just the right person to distribute the heart fortunes. In case some of us are not so fortunate as to have a grandmother, an impersonation of grandmother will answer. These fortunes are written on hearts; red ones with white writing for the men and white ones with red ink for the ladies.

be no more marriages. The good priest Valentine was very sad about this and quite secretly united couple after couple in marriage. At last the news reached Claudius who ordered Valentine to be cast into a dungeon where he died. Later the church canonized him and a new feast was introduced in place of the pagan Lupercalia to which the name St. Valentine was given, because St. Valentine's day on the church calendar occurred about the same time in February.

An Archbishop connects the celebration with St. Valentine and says, "he was a man of most admirable parts, and was so famous for his love and charity that the custom of choosing valentines upon his festival took its form from thence."

The most probable origin is the ancient feast in honor of Pan and Juno which was held by the Romans during the month of February. The Christian leaders persuaded their converts to substitute St. Valentine for the pagan Pan and Juno, and so they set the day of celebration on February the fourteenth, the date of the saint's death.

"Oft have I heard both youths and maidens say
Birds choose their mates and couples, too, this day:
But by their flight I never can divine,
When I shall couple with my valentine."

— Herrick

For the Ladies

Don't wait for him;
Go while 'tis day
And search him out;
Go right away!

His smiling eyes
Your charm will be,
He's looking for you
Hard as can be.

If he is homely,
Don't blame me.
I've marked his heart
With Cupid's key.

Now, my young girl,
Don't pass him by,
He's a fine young man
And rather high.

Loyal, upright
Handsome, true;
The boy that's suited
Just for you.

His heart is waiting,
Miss, for thee,
As full of love,
As full can be.

I'm sure that this is
One thing I know;
A brilliant boy
Is your beau.

Run quick,
For pretty things he'll
tell

You'll want him for
He's fine and well.

For the Gentlemen

A girl with pretty
wavy hair.
Is buzzing for you
Everywhere.

She's not as young,
Perhaps, as you,
Nor pretty, either,
But you dare not sue.

She's just as crazy
As can be,
Because her heart's
Beating for thee.

Now, whatever else
You do,
Don't miss the girl
With eyes of blue

She's the pick and choice
Of the upper ten.
The finest miss,
Of all women.

She's mighty pretty,
You will see;
She has a heart
Of gold for thee.

Your girl most sure
Is a gem.
Don't miss this one
Ah ha, ah hem!

She's charming and
handsome,
Bright and true
Her heart is calling
Just for you.

Games

Valentine Barter. Each person is supplied with ten beans and five separate letters from the word Valentine. The object of the game is to use the letter given to form a word or words, and the beans either to barter or buy additional desired letters from your neighbors with which to form words. At the end of a designated time the person or persons with the longest word, the person with the most words and the person with the highest number of beans are awarded prizes.

Famous Kates. Here is a game our grandmothers loved to play. Possibly they will remember it by the name of "Forty Famous Kates."

Divide the group into equal teams with about five to each team. Every person in each team is numbered, and the captain of each team is the scorer. The leader has cards on which is written the question of the famous "Kates." She calls out a number, and that number from each group or team comes forward to the leader and tries to identify the "Kate." The first person who does so scores one point for his team, and all with that number retire to their seats to be ready to be called again. Another Kate is produced, and another number is called. In the event that within a reasonable time not any of that particular number can guess what it is, another number is called. The "Kates" which can be used are:

1. What Kate leaves her place? (Vacate)
2. What Kate resigns? (Abdicate)
3. What Kate points out the way? (Indicate)
4. What Kate entangles you by her statements? (Implicate)
5. What Kate is frail? (Delicate)
6. What Kate has a twin? (Duplicate)
7. What Kate tells the news? (Communicate)
8. What Kate does not tell the truth? (Prevaricate)
9. What Kate is a housewife? (Domesticate)
10. What Kate gives instruction? (Educate)
11. What Kate returns courtesies? (Reciprocate)
12. What Kate drinks too much? (Intoxicate)

Mystery Heart Hunt. Divide the group into couples. All the guests are instructed to hunt for paper hearts which have been hidden by the hostess in very obscure places. Some of the hearts are red, some are lavender and some are ivory. After a given length of time the group is called together and the couples count their apparent gains. They are then told that the red hearts count five points, the ivory hearts two points and the lavender hearts deduct three points. Again they total their findings. An award may be offered for the couple with the highest score.

Grandmother's Valentine Wardrobe. The following are words which were familiar to the female sex from twenty-five to thirty years ago. Each person is given a pencil and a slip of paper on which is printed the following:

VVEELT	(Velvet)
ANF	(Fan)
LAWHS	(Shawl)
ESTANAPLT	(Pantalets)
NTARI	(Train)
TUBELSS	(Bustles)
IDBOEC	(Bodice)
NTONBE	(Bonnet)
ESLUMP	(Plumes)

The person to have the most correct in a given length of time is the winner.

Memory Scrapbooks. Divide the guests into small groups. Provide each group with a table, chairs, scissors, a stack of old magazines, and paste. Give each guest a small booklet made by folding in half three 8½" x 11" sheets of paper and clipping them together. The front page is to be labeled "Glimpses Into the Past," or any other title the player wishes to use. The second page is to be labeled "Scenes from My Babyhood," the third, "Childhood Frolic," next "My First Sweetheart," and fifth "My Husband or Wife," and last, "My Future Hopes." The guests are to cut out pictures from the magazines and paste them into the scrapbook on the proper page, under the proper title. About ten or fifteen minutes are allowed to finish, and the person with the best scrapbook, wins.

St. Valentine's Mating Secret. The group is paired off, and each couple is given a secret valentine which they are told to open and read quietly. Inside the valentine it read thus: "If a girl wishing to marry a Scotchman wore plaid and one desirous of catching a musician wore organdie, what then should the girls wear to land the following:—"

<i>An artist</i>	(Canvas)
<i>A barber</i>	(Mohair)
<i>A confectioner</i>	(Taffeta)
<i>Financier</i>	(Cashmere)
<i>Fisherman</i>	(Net)
<i>Banker</i>	(Checks)
<i>Editor</i>	(Prints)
<i>Gardener</i>	(Lawn)
<i>Milkman</i>	(Jersey)
<i>Undertaker</i>	(Crepe)
<i>Prisoner</i>	(Stripes)
<i>Hunter</i>	(Duck)

Charades. This is an old, old game. Divide the group into two or more parts. Let them put on charades representing the names of various people, places, words, etc. A suggestive list should be given each group.

<i>Shakespeare</i>	(Men shaking an improvised spear)
<i>Caesar</i>	(Seize her)
<i>Misunderstanding</i>	(A girl under a table with someone standing on the table)
<i>Cupboard</i>	(A cup and a board)
<i>Bookcase</i>	(A book and a spectacle case)
<i>Eyelash</i>	(Strike someone with a lash)

<i>Woman</i>	(A man walks out, the others yell "Whoa")
<i>Parapets</i>	(Two pets or two people who pet each other)
<i>Ingratiate</i>	(In gray she ate)
<i>Climax</i>	(Climb ax)
<i>Antarctic</i>	(Ant, ark, tick)
<i>Sausage</i>	(Saw sage)

Jumbled Proverbs. This is another form of charades. Select and write out several proverbs on separate pieces of paper. Cut each proverb into two or three parts and mix up the parts. The pieces are then given out—one piece to each player—and all are instructed not to utter a word, but must find the other part of their proverb by acting out their portion of it. In a large group two or three of the same proverbs may be used. When all have found their entire proverb, each "proverb" gets together and acts out their own proverb while the others try to guess what it is.

Look before you leap.

It never rains, but what it pours.

Birds of a feather flock together.

A new broom sweeps clean.

A barking dog never bites.

There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip.

Clap In, Clap Out. No old-fashioned party would be complete without this old faithful. All the men retire into another room and the girls place chairs before themselves. The men are brought in, one at a time. He takes a seat. If everybody claps, he is in the wrong seat. That means that the girl who asked for him was not the girl in whose chair he seated himself. If desired, two trials may be given each one. If he gets the right chair he remains in the room and is privileged to sit in the chair. After the men have all come in, the girls may go into the adjoining room and be brought in one at a time in the same manner.

Goodnight Ladies. Everyone knows the words.

Goodnight ladies,
Goodnight ladies,
Goodnight ladies,
We're going to leave you now.

Chorus

Merrily, we roll along,
Roll along, roll along,
Merrily, we roll along,
O'er the deep blue sea.

All form a double circle, couples facing each other with the men on the inside and the girls on the outside of the circle. On the first "Goodnight ladies," all shake hands with partners and all men move one step to the right. This brings them to

new partners. On the second, "Goodnight ladies," repeat the first figure. The third, the same as the second. On "We're going to leave you now," each man stays with his third partner and shake hands three more times (on "going to leave you now"). During the chorus all partners hook arms and skip merrily around, anticlockwise. The entire song is repeated.

Favors

Old-fashioned bouquets and boutonnaires are quite appropriate. Cut a circle of cardboard an inch and a quarter in diameter with a hole in the center about a quarter of an inch in diameter. Sew wool over and over the cardboard as though overcasting it until the cardboard is quite well covered. Take the needle and thread and pass the needle between the wool and the cardboard, being careful not to splice any of the wool. Tie the thread into a loop. Now cut the wool along the outer edge of the frame, freeing it from the cardboard, and tie the thread which held together the center into a tight knot. Trim to make a perfect circle. Several of these are used for one bouquet, using the green crepe paper wrapped wire for stems, little paper doilies for the lace frill around the outside of the bouquet and tinfoil to cover the stems and everything underneath the doily. Of course you will want to make the flowers different colors in order to make them more attractive. Handkerchief rosebud boutonnaires are more useful than the suggestions above, and the cost is a trifle more, but they too are attractive.

Fold the handkerchief in half, diagonally. Roll folded corners, loosely, toward center, holding to prevent unraveling. Separate loose corners, bringing each corner up along the outside of the bud. Tie with ribbon bow and insert in paper doily.

Baby Picture Place Cards. If it is possible to acquire a baby picture of each guest, this novel idea can be worked out. Purchase some photographic art corners. Place the pictures on lavender correspondence cards, and make stationary by using art corners. Then tie the entire card with ivory ribbon and place at the table. The guests are then told to find their seat at the table by finding their picture.

Refreshments

An Old-Fashioned Menu:

Cold baked ham	Hot biscuits
Olives	Potato Salad
	Pepper Slaw
	Sherbert
	Coffee

(Continued on page 554)

New Trends in Park Planning

OF THE AVERAGE person's daily activities, it is evident that leisure time will occupy a constantly increasing proportion, and especially for the great masses in urban sections, opportunity for recreation must keep pace. Parks, in the larger meaning, should lead the way, and that this fact is well recognized by the present administration is gratifying to all of us interested in park developments. This era will be known in the history of our nation as a great Park and Conservation period. As an immediate means of relieving unemployment and as a future field for recreation it perhaps surpasses anything before attempted in this country. To date nearly all of the great conservation projects, such as—prevention of soil erosion, flood control, forestation, and power production, have due regard for recreation possibilities.

The principles of comprehensive planning of park systems and their connecting thoroughfares are so well recognized that no brief for them is necessary in this discussion, but the present-day need for them is more evident than ever before. Fortunate is the political unit that has a well-planned program for park development in this period of adjustment.

What are some of the basic trends that should influence in new planning of parks and their connecting links.

Developments in Urban Districts

Let us consider urban developments and closely built-up sections first. The necessity of sufficient



A city planner tells how present-day needs are influencing the planning of parks and their connecting links

By
JOHN NOYES

play areas is of first importance. Few communities have enough of them, and their spacing is far from ideal in most cases. The increased leisure time of adults added to the ever present need for play activities for children will make more necessary than ever play areas in the congested sections. The question of financing is of course difficult and one for which a reasonable

solution must be found. With the present-day tendency towards a static or even a decreased population in many of our cities, the slum clearance projects and possibly the complete eradication of entire blocks of obsolete residence districts offer the wide-awake urban communities opportunity to create new play areas. Indeed, the very existence of many cities as soluble political entities will depend to a great extent on the thoroughness with which they embrace such programs. Though they may not be fully aware of it, most cities are in active competition with outlying suburbs to hold their residents. The automobile and rapid transportation facilities have made available outer districts where there is less noise, more fresh air and sunshine and better play facilities. Unless the cities make their residence zones more attractive by means of additional parks and playgrounds, this trend will continue to a greater degree than ever before. For example, subsistence farming developments on the outskirts of cities, a decided trend of the times, undoubtedly will take large numbers from the cities.

Unquestionably a present-day indication in playground design is a tendency towards games

that will require less area per person. As an illustration, in larger playfields, probably more soft ball on small diamonds is being played today than baseball with its full sized big league diamond. Other sports with similar reduction in area per person will inevitably be required to better utilize minimum size playgrounds.

Increased leisure time for adults in our cities, however, means more necessary areas, too, for passive recreation, whether in connection with playgrounds or separated therefrom. Pedestrian sanctuaries, landscape and country type parks where older people may rest and reflect on the beauties of nature will be more desirable than ever. Modern playground design should recognize the older generation in creating and reserving more play activities of a milder nature for them, such as roque, quoits and similar sports. Too few of our park and playground systems recognize the need of mild physical activity for the older person. That improvement in aesthetic arrangement in all of these types is also possible, is quite evident.

The larger country or landscape park of twenty-five or more years ago is almost disappearing in most of our cities. Much as we hate to face this fact we must recognize it. Encroachments of play activities, sites for various public buildings, zoological collections and displays and various other interests, many of them quite unrelated to park purposes, are fast changing the original purpose of this type of park. Many of the park drives, originally for leisurely pleasure traffic only, have become main thoroughfares or parts of the main arteries in the cities. One of the big problems of the future in park planning will surely be the modernization of these parks, through grade separation of many of these main arteries through parks, and the consequent re-grading and landscaping of the areas involved. Park commissions should oppose vigorously further encroachments of park areas by various unrelated public or semi-public institutions and should make a strenuous effort to remove many now existent.

Zoological collections, among the finest of our scientific-educational projects, in many cases have been located in areas unfit for the purpose and where expansion is almost impossible. In most cases they would infinitely be better situated if located in grounds set aside exclusively for their use or, if

located in the large country park, in a properly designed area, with plenty of room for expansion.

Golf courses probably retain the natural topography and vegetation of the park more than any other sport and fit into the landscape better; but in the interest of safety to other park patrons, golf courses should be isolated from main park drives, preferably located in areas exclusively for them.

Modernization of most parks is unquestionably needed if they are to function as up-to-date recreation centers based on present-day needs. In many cases this trend will lead towards the abandonment of roads through them, in the case of many smaller parks, and the elimination of parts of the road system in larger parks. Creation of areas for automobile courts or so-called parking areas along attractive lines with planted separation strips, additional lookout points and similar traffic features, are increasingly desirable. Many roads in older parks, designed in horse and carriage days, need reconstruction, with easier and less dangerous curves.

In the opinion of many, cities not already possessing them should have at least one area in parks devoted to an arboretum and even perhaps a modest botanical garden. This area where various types of plants, hardy to the locality may be found with all plants labeled, would be of great educational value, and also of great potential attractiveness.

The architecture in many parks is fast becoming obsolete and in need of modernization. Good taste in design of structures demands our interest more than ever before, and the type of architecture and materials most suitable to the locality obviously should be used, with preference towards more or less uniformity of style. Many existing structures in parks are almost as unsuitable in style, materials and purpose as a California bungalow in northern New Hampshire.

Regional or County or Metropolitan Parks

The movement towards regional parks, whether known as County, Metropolitan or by any other name, in the environs of our larger cities, will increase in number and use. The splendid examples of the Westchester County system and the Metropolitan system of Boston and others have set an enviable record of accomplishment that all metropolitan

This address was delivered by Mr. Noyes, Landscape Architect and City Planner, St. Louis, Missouri, at the convention of the American Institute of Park Executives held at Louisville, September 17-21.

Many feel that at least one area in a park should be devoted to such developments as the rose gardens and lily ponds in Rock Springs Park, Ft. Worth, Texas



Courtesy Ft. Worth Park Department

communities are attempting to emulate to a greater or less degree. The opportunity to connect the main park areas and reservations of the outer system by means of parkways is, of course, greater in these less congested districts than in the city.

St. Louis County is now in the midst of a five million dollar bond issue campaign for the construction of sewers, and as a part of its program eventually expects to develop many of the natural drainage channels, its creeks and small rivers, into parkways, appropriately named "Flo-ways." Other environs of large cities will doubtless proceed along similar lines. The possibilities of many of the super-highways now entering cities as landscaped parkways leading to large outer parks and reservations are almost unlimited.

The large outer parks and reservations of the regional system will supplant to a large extent the fast disappearing country park of the city, and their accessibility by bus and rail transportation as well as by automobile is a most important consideration. Camping grounds, nature trails, game preserves, boating, fishing and similar activities are generally greater in demand in the larger and more distant parks than the more active types of recreation. Preservation of natural scenery and native plant life, and a landscape treatment developed to fit and accentuate the natural characteristics of the site using native plant materials exclusively, so far as possible, should dominate.

Distinction in these parks, and, in fact, in all park developments whether city, state or national, should be one of the great objectives of the designer. If Jones Park in the south part of the city can have characteristics that distinguish it from Smith Park in the north part, both in good taste and well designed, certainly the citizenry of the entire city will try to visit both at various times

during the year; the more pride they will have in the two and the greater will be their support of the parks. Many times this distinction will develop from the natural characteristics of the site. Often it must develop from the ingenuity of the designer.

State and National Parks

Acquisition of state parks for the preservation of points of great scenic interest and natural wonders have received great impetus in the past few years. Many states have adopted the policy of setting a maximum price limit on such properties which means that such sites will in most cases be far distant from and relatively inaccessible to the large centers of population, the heaviest taxpayers, hence the principal financial investors in the park. Five dollar an acre land one hundred and fifty miles from the center of population may be as expensive as \$100.00 an acre land within twenty or twenty-five miles of the center in cost of the land per visitor. A 10,000 acre tract at the greater distance might have 50,000 visitors a year; land cost, exclusive of maintenance and development costs, would represent \$1.00 per visitor. A tract of equal size close to the large center costing \$100.00 per acre might have 1,000,000 visitors a year which would also represent \$1.00 per visitor. My figures may not even approximately approach the correct ones, but certainly this economic problem deserves important consideration. When the costs of transportation and loss of time in going to the far distant tract are considered, the points in favor of the easily accessible state park are even more pronounced.

State water conservation programs for streams and flood control through creation of lakes are almost unlimited in their possibilities for recreation, providing as they will opportunities for boating and fishing activities, tourist and weekend camps, to say nothing of the landscape and scenic features.

National parks selected from superlative areas for their scenic interest and natural wonders, preserved in their native glory, will ever be the pride of all Americans. Accessibility is a minor consideration in their selection. The National Park Service is to be congratulated on the selection, development and management of these sites. National and state forests and regional forests near large cities, for their economic importance, as well as their recreational possibilities, should also be greatly encouraged, fostered and enlarged upon.

Highway Beautification

Another of the most significant trends of the times which we may broadly consider a part of the park program is the possibility for beautification, landscape development and improvement of our state and rural highways. State highway engineers have not reached the apex in design by any means, as regards fitting the road to topography or in grace of line and curve, but there has been a notable improvement in the past four or five years. The past year has seen a remarkable impetus to the roadside improvement program and the possibilities of many of the state highways and super-highways as scenic parkways is unbounded. Between the St. Louis city limits and the town of Gray Summit, Missouri, a distance of some thirty-five miles, we have a new highway officially known as Highway 66 which to date is undoubtedly the best example of state highway planning in the eastern part of the state. It happens that this highway connects the Missouri Botanical Garden in the city with its new Arboretum at Gray Summit. A little over a year ago an association was formed to work for the preservation of natural scenery along this highway, the control of billboards, the improvement of roadside stands and service stations and the development of roadside planting mainly through use of native plants.

With the assistance of this association, the State Highway Department has planted thousands of trees and shrubs along this highway. By popular acclaim and sanction of the two counties through which it passes, this section of Highway 66 has been named the "Henry Shaw Garden-

way" as a memorial to the founder and donor of the Missouri Botanical Garden. The new program of the association is to secure easements on adjacent property, in some cases a half mile or more from the road, particularly on land not suitable for cultivation, for the planting of thousands of native redbud, wild crab, dogwood and other native plants—one type of forestation. This new program has the enthusiastic support of the State Highway Department and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Undoubtedly our state highways have great possibilities along similar lines. With the gradual acquisition of "Rest-a-way" parks along the routes, picnic grounds, and scenic overlooks, many of them will indeed become park systems in themselves.

This leads to consideration of "Tourways." This movement, inaugurated at the convention of the American Society of Civil Engineers in Vancouver, last July, proposes the construction of great parkways throughout the nation, reserved exclusively for the use of passenger automobiles. It is undoubtedly one of the foremost progressive steps of our generation in highway planning. The aim of these "Tourways"—300 or more feet of freeways—would be to connect national, state and local parks and other points of interest, and to provide smaller parks along the way for camping and sightseeing.

A few remarks about the possibilities of your own profession are pertinent at this time. Park executives today must be big business men. The ability required in a good all-round park executive would probably bring in many times the income he now receives if he were connected with a large commercial enterprise. There is, however, a large field still relatively unexplored that challenges your ability, that of building up support through public interest in your work and your parks. Building up public pride in the park system pays big dividends to the city in the tourist travel it helps to create and in the support of the citizens themselves. Obviously that they have something to be proud of is assumed. In Missouri we have a Citizens' Road Committee which has greatly assisted the State Highway Commission in the development of the State Highway System. Why not local and state park associations of interested citizens to act in an advisory capacity and help put over park programs? Encourage wealthy citizens to donate and endow parks for the public as memorials to themselves

(Continued on page 554)

A County Recreation Exposition

THE FIRST Westchester County Recreation Exposition was held at the County Center in White Plains, N. Y., from October 31st through November 6th under the auspices of the Westchester County Recreation Commission. Forty different civic, social or educational organizations cooperated in the undertaking; of these, sixteen were recreation boards operating under municipal auspices in various communities of the county. Nearly as many manufacturers or local dealers in equipment for recreational activities also participated. Over a hundred individuals worked toward the success of the show as members or officers of committees representing twenty-five classifications of recreation.

The main purposes of the Exposition, which will be conducted annually hereafter, were described as follows by E. Dana Caulkins, Superintendent of the county's Recreation Commission: First, to aid the citizens of the county in the selection and cultivation of wholesome and satisfying recreational activities; and second, to aid the local recreation agencies of the county by promoting increased participation of citizens in locally sponsored activities.

For a "first performance," the results were gratifying. The entire building was in use from the Exhibit Halls in the basement to the Little Theatre on the second floor. The great auditorium was cleared and about a hundred booths were erected with the aid of workers from the Westchester County Transient Center in nearby Elmsford. Here were shown equipment for indoor and outdoor sports of all kinds, toys and games, and old prints and jewelry for the collector. A modern printing press, on which a newspaper *The Exposition News* was printed daily, and an airplane were the outstanding exhibits in point of view of size. Ten local recreation commissions arranged attractive displays illustrating a wide variety of recreational activity. The model of a proposed airport for Westchester County occupied a key position on the main floor.

Other exhibits of unusual interest on this floor represented such activities as dramatics, camping,

Westchester County, New York, discovers an activity so interesting and popular that it will be made an annual event

fishing and hunting, gardenings, choral and instrumental music, hiking, amateur photography and motion picture technique. The arts and crafts were shown in the downstairs Exhibit Hall, as were home activities, collections and models of trains and ships. Not before, since the Center was opened in 1930, have so many and such diverse forms of leisure time pursuits been exhibited at the same time. Nightly demonstrations of the various activities added to the attraction of the Exposition.

From the hour the doors were opened each day—1 o'clock—until they closed at 10 P. M., men and women, boys and girls came to look and ask questions. They came in groups and individually; many families attended together. The first day's attendance was about 1,500, and each day thereafter, the number grew, until on the last day it was estimated that about 7,000 people swarmed into the Exposition. The total attendance was about 30,000. Local newspapers commented on the "tremendous interest" in recreation that this figure indicated, and expressed the hope that "the success of the first year will lead to a permanent program." A central committee was in charge.

The sale of a limited number of booths to commercial exhibitors provided most of the income, and the sale of admission tickets and souvenir programs also helped to put the Exposition on a self-supporting basis. Only the cooperation of a large number of organizations made the affair possible. Among those arranging exhibits or providing leadership and talent in the daily demonstrations and entertainments at the show were the following:

Westchester divisions of the American Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Parent-Teachers' Association, Federation of Women's Clubs, and the

(Continued on page 554)

And for a Backdrop the Tyrolean Alps!

By LUCILE HOERR CHARLES
Director of Drama
American Peoples College in Europe

"WE DROVE UP in deep night to the inn with a flourish, finding our welcoming Poconians sitting at tables in bright color under the trees. A glamorous introduction to the Tyrol! Hot tea and hearty greeting waiting for us; then sleep under feather bed. In the early morning I looked out to see unreal steep mountains crowned in drifting mist. From then to now has been a series of unreal beautiful pictures. The unbelievably exquisite village; white houses; painted walls, windows and doorways; embellished inscriptions, carvings on the outside of all the houses; the wayside shrines, the covered bridges, the flowers; the band with their shiny instruments which we met in the street getting ready to play, all in short pants, embroidered jackets, and broad-brimmed felt hats trimmed with cock feathers and Alpenrosen. Beauty is overflowing. I wish I could recapture every moment of these two days and deliver them entire to those at home."

So reads the first entry of my journal after I came to Oetz-in-Tyrol, the town where the American Peoples College in Europe has its headquarters. The first impression we all had was one of utter charm, and we gave ourselves up to enjoyment of the village.

Soon the drama group came together, however, and discussed plans. What would it be appropriate to do here in this lovely valley? How could we learn the most? What equipment did we have? Where did our needs and wishes lead us?

We had a grand feeling of freedom in this planning. There was no set curriculum, no course, grades, examinations or fixed textbooks. We were not obligated to produce a play. True to the Peoples College tradition we were here to make the most of ourselves and



Courtesy American Peoples College

our situation in whatever way seemed best. Hence, the huge zest with which together we outlined our adventures and embarked upon them!

Rumor drifted in that over in a clover field there was an outdoor community theatre. We set out to find it, passing slow-moving cow-pulled wagons, and peasants raking in the fields with hand-made wooden rakes and red poppies against a blue sky on a slope above us. We were already making friends in the village; the innkeeper called out "Gruss Gott," the laundress waved to us as she came out to get water from the crystal stream flowing past her door.

The "Freilichtbühne" (literally "freelight-stage") was exactly right. A plank floor, weathergray; a built-up rampart covered somewhat with sod and harebells; electric lights; a gently sloping clover field for the audience to sit upon, and the magnificent setting of snow-covered Alps. By all means we must use this outdoor theatre! And we did.

We used it several times during the season. We gave Capek's "The Life of the Insects" for one thing, and we gave our own version of how

American students climb mountains in the Tyrol for another. This last play we "Acherkogel" after the tallest peak in the neighborhood, and I should like to discuss it for a moment, since the process by which it was assembled may be interesting to recreation leaders who create plays on playgrounds and in camps, or in the corner of a yard or perhaps in a club room.

Our group had just completed a careful production of two one-act plays in the Inn. Most of us were in the relaxed happy recoil following a successful performance. It was a glorious afternoon. No one felt like doing very much; in fact only five felt like doing anything dramatic at all. These five, plus the drama director, betook themselves over to the Freilichtbuhne, books and blankets under their arms. They read plays aloud for an hour or so, pausing often to drink in the sunshine, the brilliant blue sky, the white clouds, the noise of the mad, crashing mountain stream a quarter of a mile away, the amethyst heights of the encircling mountains. At the end of a lazy hour, a spark flared up. Someone noticed, as we sat there in front of the stage, how the rampart repeated the shape of Acherkogel, leaning back up there high and clear. Came more suggestions from two or three who had recently climbed the mountain. Came the decision to give a takeoff on the Acherkogel ascent, at the Freilichtbuhne.

Next morning the six of us met again at the theatre, plus an elderly Viennese music professor who came along as an interested and slightly scandalized observer. It was for the learned Herr Doktor new and somewhat terrifying to see the casual manner in which these Americans stood around, joking and laughing, tossing in suggestions, anecdotes, giving sweeping and impractical suggestions for the form of the play, all helter-skelter, hit or miss, and everything cheerfully recorded on paper by the director who was as informal as the rest of them. Yet the di-

rector was in fact chairman, and as opportunity arose he began suppressing some suggestions and evoking others, helping to shape the whole, reminding the group that the play must be built upon a simple curve leading to a climax and thereafter falling quickly away. He insisted upon a clean-cut beginning, climax and end; what happened in between was less important. Within a few minutes it was agreed that there should be three climbers, to be played by Ann, Peg and Jock. Jay would be Shep, the guide, and Alice would be the Elements. The scenario was roughly blocked out; each character was defined as a type; the Herr Doktor and the director seated themselves on the footlights box in front, and the actors sailed in.

One side of the stage was the village of Oetz, whence the climbers set forth at two a. m. Very gaily, and well fortified by biscuits and honey served even at that ungodly hour at the home of the Director of the College (a customary rite, by the way). In fact all the incidents which occurred were culled directly from life. The other side of the stage was Bielefelder Hutte, the halfway house. The top of the rampart was, of course, the mountain. Back and forth the climbers tramped on a switchback trail, across the stage on one long board, and back along the next one. Enroute the Elements ran forth with a sprinkling can and the climbers were deluged, except Shep the guide who thoughtfully carried an umbrella! And so on through all the excitements and vicissitudes of the climb.

Losing one's trail (before meeting the guide) stubbing one's toe, eating chocolate, drinking at a pool, being roped together, watching an avalanche go by, seeing the moon rise (round piece of paper raised by the Elements with inimitable grandeur), hunting for Edelweiss and an autumn crocus, going through a snowstorm, up across one terrific ascent after the other, with a final



Courtesy American Peoples College

straddling of the dangerous saddle of rock from one peak to the highest, Peg with her huge, unlaced shoes; Jack, good natured, inclined to be lazy; Ann, complaining and drolly naive; Jay (the guide) with his beer bottles and odd rear elevation when climbing.

It is impossible to recapture the bloom of theatre fun in a written report. Suffice it to say that the Herr Doktor and the director laughed at this first rehearsal until literally they cried. Particularly funny was the last awful ascent; the agony of those four grown people trying to scramble up a three-foot slide; the proud singing on the mountain top; the quick descent; the takeoff on a Schulplattler dance at Bielefelder Hutte. And finally the triumphant procession down the switch-back trail, all fatigue gone, and into Oetz again. It had the sparkle of a new and happy game.

That was the only rehearsal we had, too. In the afternoon we met again to go over the scenario in our minds and to check on the props and signs. We spread the word about among the villagers and guests of the inns that at six o'clock that evening we would give this show which made fun of Americans climbing the mountains.

At performance time perhaps sixty or seventy people were in the audience, many of them speaking only German but thoroughly understanding the spirit of the play. The American student section of the audience first sang folk songs and Negro spirituals, answered by Tyrolean folk songs from the mountaineers. Then the small but noble band of actors held forth for perhaps a half hour. And our frankly impromptu, flexible little play, with a sufficiently sound framework for the silliness and fun to be pegged upon, was a hit. The peasant children sat there with their buckskin shorts and colored aprons, their long braids and cropped heads, and squirmed with delight. The village boys sat in a group together, slapping their thighs over the antics of American student mountaineers. The whole audience howled with laughter. We are not at all modest about our success. In fact we still gloat over it.

This play that we made up was only one of the things the drama group of the American Peoples College in Europe did in Oetz. More formal productions took place, play readings,

speech and pantomime study. Also during this orientation period at the college headquarters we were studying language, history and current events, and coming into contact with other American students interested primarily in music, physical education, psychology, or general social conditions abroad.

And then we set off on a Pocono study trip through from five to nine different countries, depending on what routing we took and how long we stayed over. Some came to Europe for only nine weeks and others stayed over for a year. We made swift comparative surveys of the theatre in various countries. We visited many types of performances from the most finished professional productions to those of the most naive amateur. We watched rehearsals, sat in government boxes, had interviews with the President of the Hungarian Playwrights' Association and the Director of the Opera and the National Theatre in Vienna, met Sil Vara, author of "Caprice," visited Reinhardt's theatre in Prague, saw performances of O'Neill's plays in Danish, the Czech Ballet and the current theatrical excitement of Stockholm and London. Throughout we were seeking the relationship of theatre and life, watching particularly for echoes of the present social and economic confusion.

Moreover, again in accord with the Peoples College tradition, we were travelling for the most part simply and modestly. Oh, we splurged once in a while! Who will ever forget that hotel in Paris? But for the most part we lived in homes and inexpensive pensions and traveled third class on the railroads and boats. And by so doing we got really to know something of the life of the people, and we did things literally as cheaply as they can be done.

Home again, not only with vivid memories of the pastry piled with whipped cream we had in Denmark, the moonlit sea, and that cow we tried to milk in the Tyrol, but with an accumulation of dramatic material and method, a treasury of the stuff of the theatre as it occurs in countries other than our own. We came home with a new perspective on our theatre problems in America, and with a more specific technique to use on that little show in our own backyard.

A Field House 100 Percent "Play-full"

THE CHILDREN of one of the Newport, Rhode Island, playgrounds have been so persistent in sliding down the roof of a little coal shed on the playground that it has been necessary to reshingle it every two years. Taking the tip from the children, several years ago we built a maple slide on one side of the building with stairs on the other. This the children used until the surface became "slivery" and unusable.

The next step was the construction of a slide shown as part of the building pictured in the illustration. The surface was of white cement and stone aggregates ground to a polished surface that eliminates slivers and never rusts or corrodes. A wooden foot piece converted it into a toboggan slide in winter. This slide, with a wooden set of stairs and a platform, was used until two years ago when the C.W.A. and F.E.R.A. completed the project.

The building which resulted contains a main room 16' by 16' with an oak bench around two sides and a 4 foot fireplace giving ample heat for spring and fall use. This room serves as a field house dressing room, a club house for small neighborhood gatherings, a shelter and workshop for children on rainy days, and a place where indoor

By **ARTHUR LELAND**
Landscape Architect
Newport, R. I.

bacon bats may be held. There is a broad stairway outside leading to the roof and across to the slide.

There are no shingles, slate, tile or

conductors to be broken. In the building are a toilet, lavatory and cold shower bath for girls located under the stairs, a cold shower bath, urinal and toilet for the boys placed under the slide, and a lavatory inside the door of the main room. The windows are high and covered with gratings. The height of the platform forming the roof of the building is 9 feet. The roof can be used for a variety of purposes—as a bandstand, as an outdoor stage for dramatic productions and as a ring for boxing contests, as well as a play area and a platform for the slide and stairs. If heat should be required for winter use, a basement can be added for the heating system and for storage purposes.

The cost of materials was \$1,081.37, for labor and supervision, \$2,428.85, making a total expenditure of \$3,510.22. If done by contract the cost might be reduced. The exterior of the building is of cobblestones salvaged from the city streets; the interior, granite paving blocks secured

(Continued on page 554)





Courtesy Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park

WORLD AT PLAY

Nature Study and Garden Clubs

THE School Garden Association of America, which has been actively interested in nature study in the public schools since 1910, has launched a campaign to bring together into a national organization the nature study and garden clubs which exist in the schools of the United States. A series of leaflets dealing with various kinds of club activity, medals of award, membership pins and other aids are being prepared. Assistance will be given in planning and organizing new clubs in elementary schools as well as in junior and senior high schools. Anyone interested is urged to write to the Chairman of the National Junior Club Committee of the School Garden Association—Karl H. Blanch, East Mauch Chunk High School, East Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania.

Winter Sports

THE Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park, New York, are offering at Bear Mountain an attractive program of winter sports with skating, skiing, tobogganing, bob-sledding, hiking, snow-shoeing and all the other activities which make the park such an important winter sport center. The schedule of special events

includes the following: January 5th and 6th—Olympic speed skating try-outs for the middle Atlantic section; January 13th—Interstate ski jumping tournament; January 27th—Palisades ski jumping tournament; February 12th—Bear Mountain ski jumping tournament. Winter camps are maintained for the use of winter sports enthusiasts which may be rented at a nominal sum. These cabins, which vary in size, are furnished with the essential kitchen and dining room utensils, as well as with pots, mattresses and blankets. Winter sports equipment is also provided. Further information may be secured from Miss Ruby M. Jolliffe, Superintendent, Camp Department, Palisades Interstate Park Commissioners, 141 Worth Street, New York City.

Movies, or Games and Athletics?

THE Better Films Committee, of Englewood, New Jersey, announcing the findings of a questionnaire answered by 1,500 grade and junior high school pupils, states that the study shows the majority of children preferring games and athletics to movies. The average Englewood child attends 4.3 times a month, some reporting they have never been to a movie and others stating they attend as often as twenty times a month.

PENN STATE SUMMER SESSIONS

Inter-Session, June 11 to June 28
Main Session, July 1 to Aug. 9
Post Session, Aug. 12 to Aug. 30

College degrees for students and teachers of Health, Physical Education and athletic coaching. Seekers of degrees in Health and Physical Education find Penn State's popular summer session ideal. Combines thorough study with real vacation fun in the heart of the Alleghenies. Unusual recreational opportunities. Modern gymnasium. Tuition, room and board surprisingly low.

Graduate courses leading to advanced degrees. Undergraduate courses leading to baccalaureate degree. Special courses in athletic coaching for men and women. Nationally-known coaching staff.

For catalog address
Director of Summer Sessions

The PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE
State College, Pa.



Values of Drama Tournaments—Community appreciation of the activity of recreation departments in organizing and promoting community dramatic tournaments is voiced in a bulletin from the Young Men's Hebrew Association in Birmingham, Alabama. The Park and Recreation Board of that city last spring promoted a one-act play tournament and made available the Sharpe Cup for the winner. This was awarded to the Dramatic Workshop of the Y.M.H.A. for what was alleged to be a truly professional performance of "Confessional." The Y.M.H.A. *News* says: "The Park and Recreation Board has done a splendid piece of work by sponsoring a tournament such as this. Amateur dramatic groups are brought together in good fellowship to compete among themselves. The experience which every member of a cast received by appearing before an interested audience is invaluable training. The theatre is the finest means of self-expression and for that reason many of us who have shown no interest should realize the field there is for development in acting. As for the "Y" Dramatic Group, it upheld as usual those traditions of fair play, cooperation and splendid effort which have always been its motto."

American Physical Education Association Convention—The national convention of the American Physical Education Association and its Eastern District Society will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, April 24-27, 1935.

The Southern District of the American Physical Education Association convention will be held at the Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, April 3-6, 1935.

Camps for Young Men of Great Britain—Great Britain is one of the countries which is seeking through the establishment of camps to do something for counteracting "the effects of prolonged unemployment on the younger men in the severely depressed areas." Four physical training centers under full time instructors were opened during 1932 for the benefit of all young men between the ages of eighteen and thirty who were wholly unemployed. The experiment proved so popular that it was expanded in 1933 through the creation of thirteen new centers. This is entirely a recreational and physical conditioning undertaking except in the case of the Edinburgh Center. There the courses are specialized for the purpose of training men to lead physical training classes. About 9,000 men have taken a twelve week physical training course maintained by the Ministry of Labor. By the close of 1933 some of the classes had been taken over by private welfare organizations.

A Sports Parade—On November 18, 1934, 50,000 individuals participated in a sports parade in Mexico. All the sport elements within the republic were represented. The parade terminated in front of the National Palace, from a balcony of which President Rodriguez, President-elect Lazaro Cardenas, the full Cabinet and the diplomatic corps applauded the various athletic feats which were presented. Boys on skates led the way, followed by venison hunters, crack Mexican poloists, baseball, basketball, rugby, soccer and tennis players, oarsmen, fencers and girl athletes of every class. The enormous progress of sport in Mexico was portrayed.—From the *New York Times*, November 19, 1934.

Neighborhood Clubs—In Tampa, Florida, the Board of Public Recreation is stressing the organization of neighborhood clubs in some of the most neglected sections of the city. Two clubs, the De Soto Recreation Club and the Jackson Heights Improvement Club, for young men and women from sixteen to thirty-five years, are making particularly gratifying progress and new members are joining each week. The clubs are meeting a real need in their communities. The Jackson Heights Improvement Club is making plans to build a playground in Jackson Park in connection with the clubhouse. Basketball courts, tennis courts, dia-

mond ball fields, horseshoe pitching courts and play facilities for small children are included in the plans. Club members are raising funds and securing volunteer help for the project. The De Soto Recreation Club has held a dance attended by 350 people. A nominal fee was charged to defray expenses.

Gardening—Last year many gardening projects were provided through 4-H clubs. Forty-four thousand boys and 132,000 girls were enrolled in home garden projects. During the same period 3,411 boys and 66,198 girls interested themselves in beautification of home grounds projects.

Eleventh Annual Junior High School Conference—The School of Education of New York University announces its eleventh annual Junior High School Conference to be held at the School of Education, New York City, on Friday and Saturday, March 8th and 9th. The general subject for the conference is: "Junior high school pupils—how can they achieve democracy?"

Tennis Tournaments in Salt Lake City—In August Salt Lake City completed its annual city-wide tennis tournament, the most successful in the history of the city. Approximately 1,000 individuals participated in the fourteen different classes for a total of 820 matches and 2,390 participants. An opportunity to play was presented to both young and old. High school and college letter men, as well as major tennis tournament winners, were barred from participation. This ruling proved an impetus in attracting the average player and added zest to the competition. No entry fee was required and balls were furnished for the final matches.

Summer Emergency Classes—Education and recreation centers developed in Pennsylvania by the Department of Public Instruction as a phase of the emergency education program have enrolled 18,450 young men and women in activities, according to the Public Education Bulletin for August 1934. The centers have been developed in school buildings, Y.M.C.A.'s and other suitable public buildings having nearby athletic fields, playgrounds and swimming pools. Sixty-two supervisors at these centers directed handcraft classes, nature study, health education, dramatics, sewing, industrial arts, singing, dancing and athletic activities.



NOW!

**BRING
EVERWEAR SAFETY
... TO YOUR SWINGS!**

The New EverWear Spring-Rubber Safety Seat for Swings, No. SR-206. (United States and Canadian Patents Pending) cushions every blow and prevents serious accidents. It is made of an ingenious arrangement of special, EverWear-designed, fabric-reinforced, tough, springy, long-wearing, tubular, tire stock rubber, which is so assembled in combination with spring steel, as to give a soft, springy, resilient, swing seat of remarkable safety, strength and durability.

All outside surfaces of the seat are springy rubber: **SAFETY!** All top and bottom surfaces are corrugated to prevent slipping: **SAFETY!** All edges are soft, springy, and resilient: **SAFETY!** All ends bend easily under any blow or pressure (but immediately spring back to their normal shape after the pressure is removed): **SAFETY!** No metal parts are exposed where they can become dangerous: **SAFETY!** No wood enters its construction: it cannot warp, split nor splinter: **SAFETY!** Requires no painting.

Suspension clevises are reversible, making both sides of the seat available for use (this feature doubles the life of the seat): **DURABILITY!** Rubber tough, long-wearing tire stock: **DURABILITY!** Spring steel is painted to resist rust: **DURABILITY!** Built to withstand heavy weights (tested under an active load of 950 pounds): **STRENGTH!** Edgewise, the seat can be sprung or bent under pressure or blows (adding further to its **SAFETY!**).

Weights 5 3/4 pounds (light for the rugged requirements of its service): **SAFETY!** Priced within reach of every buyer who values **SAFETY** on the playground (\$4.50 each, net, f. o. b. Springfield, Ohio, U. S. A. Price subject to change without notice): **ECONOMY!**

Investigate The New EverWear Spring-Rubber Safety Seat for Swings. Buy them to replace old swing seats. Specify them for all new swing outfits.

**NOW !!
BRING EVERWEAR SAFETY
... TO YOUR SWINGS!**

Manufactured by
The EverWear Manufacturing Company
Springfield, Ohio, U. S. A.

The World's oldest and largest exclusive maker of playground, beach and pool apparatus; a complete line of the SAFEST and most DURABLE recreation apparatus made.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Safety Education, January, 1935.

Cities Protect Winter Sportsmen, by Marion Holbrook.

Parks and Recreation, December, 1934.

What Parks Are Doing for Abundant Living, by Ernest K. Thomas.

Proposed National "Tourways" Plan, by A. P. Greensfelder.

Duties of the Park Board, by Phelps Wyman.

The Value of Advance Planning in Park Development, by Harry J. Adams.

Preparing for Christmas, by V. K. Brown.

What Shall We Do With This Leisure? by V. K. Brown.

Some Thoughts on Recreational Planning, by Aldo Leopold.

Leisure, January, 1935.

Fun in Winter, by Dickson J. Hartwell.

Snow Men and Snow Menageries.

Yes, Make Your Own Furniture, by Edwin S. Parker.

Lav Out Your Garden by the Hearth, by Marguerite Latta.

Soap Sculpturing, by James C. Neylon.

Parents' Magazine, January, 1935.

Youth Speaks (Account of the Youth Conference, a part of the program of the 1934 Mobilization of Human Needs), by Harry A. Overstreet.

The Red Cross Courier, January, 1935.

When Winter Comes, by Carroll Bryant.

International Labour Review, November, 1934.

Possibilities of International Action to Workers' Spare Time, by G. Mequet.

Review of Reviews, November 1934.

Learning How to Play, by Jo Chamberlin.

The Journal of Health and Physical Education, January, 1935.

A State-Wide Rural School Play Day Program, by George F. Hendricks.

Co-Recreational Activities—an Editorial.

The Game of Ice Hockey, by Harriet M. Brown.

Home Duck Pin Bowling.

Crossball.

PAMPHLETS

Report of the Forester, 1934.

Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Leisure-Time in Millburn.

Report for 1934 of the Department of Public Recreation of Millburn, N. J.

All About Badminton.

Cragin-Simplex Corporation, New York City.

Seventh Annual Report of the Department of Public Recreation of Irvington, N. J., 1934.

SAMUEL FRENCH'S

Catalogue of Plays

Our new 1935 complete Catalogue is now ready for distribution. Completely revised and up-to-the-minute, it classifies and fully describes French's plays of distinction for every need.

Our new system of classification is designed to enable you to find just that Play, with the least possible effort.

Please send for your copy today.

SAMUEL FRENCH

DEPT. R.

25 West 45th St., New York, N. Y.
811 West 7th St., Los Angeles, Calif.

Play Streets in Philadelphia—Street play was conducted in Philadelphia last summer through funds for leadership provided by the local Works Division of the State Relief Bureau. Workers received training for a week preceding the opening of the play streets. The program consisted of games such as volley ball, tennis with courts chalked off on the pavements, and soft ball with modified rules. Each session ended with group singing and story-telling.

Recreational Progress in Great Britain—During 1933 the National Playing Fields Association of Great Britain has been the recipient of several gifts, which have increased to forty-nine the number of recreation grounds which it now holds. The Grants Committee of the Carnegie Trustees and the National Playing Fields Association have made grants amounting to £29,995 in aid of 112 projects for acquiring and letting out 761 acres in different parts of Great Britain. The practice has been to contribute one-sixth of the approved cost of acquisition, layout and equipment, subject to the limitation that no combined grant shall exceed £2,000.

Music in Tampa—Music is playing an important part in the program of the Tampa Board of Park Public Recreation. A juvenile orchestra of twenty-three members has been organized under the direction of a volunteer. Over 400 boys and girls are playing in playground harmonica clubs and rhythm bands under the direction of the F.E.R.A. recreation music director. A stringed instrument and harmonica band has been organized for older boys and girls. Community sings are conducted each

week at one of the playgrounds. A F.E.R.A. orchestra and band composed of twenty-six musicians presents four concerts each week at four parks. A Negro band of thirty-one musicians plays twice a week.

A Citizens' Committee Organized — On August 16th, at a mass meeting held in Minneapolis, a citizens' committee on public recreation was organized to support the city's recreational program.

A Water Pageant in Steubenville, Ohio—A crowd of 4,000 people attended the colorful water pageant held in Steubenville under the auspices of the Recreation Department. There were events of many kinds, including in addition to the pageant, a chariot race, water polo and canoe tilting. Music was provided by the band organized in the community recreation center. Performers in the pageant were all swimmers in the three city park pools.

Leisure Time Recreation

(Continued from page 514)

to face it in the administration of municipalities, when we come to the point where we have to cut, the easiest thing to cut usually is the latest thing that came into the budget. The old established things have built behind them a tradition, have got back of them a supporting body in the community. The adventurous things, the experimental things, don't have that same measure of support. And yet the interesting thing about it is this, that the new thing maybe has come in because it is a distinct answer to a particular problem which has arisen. You may be carrying the old activity simply because it is a traditional activity, but the new activity may be a definite response to a particular need which has dramatized itself so spectacularly that it has to be dealt with. In other words, when we face this question of cutting, we have to ask ourselves not merely which is old and which is new, but we have to ask ourselves how far is it, whether old or new, meeting a definite and specific need. And when we deal with these recreational problems it seems to me that we ought to face them on that basis and realize that this new development in our municipal life is not something



Eagle Ringer
(patented)

BE READY

For the 1935 Season

with DIAMOND Official Pitching Horseshoes and accessories. There's keen enjoyment for everyone in the healthy exercise of horseshoe pitching. The DIAMOND line is the favorite of amateurs and professionals alike. Make your plans NOW for the coming season.

Write for information



DIAMOND CALK HORSESHOE CO.
4610 Grand Avenue, Duluth, Minn.

which has come out of the blue, but is something which has come in direct response to a community need.

Men like you all over the country are in a strategic place, to give leadership in this whole field. We don't need to argue about leisure time. For the masses of the people there is going to be more leisure time than there has ever been. Is that leisure time going to be a social asset, or is it going to be a social liability? And I should like to invite you to become pioneers in your field and in the total social structure in seeing if you cannot work out in your municipalities some schemes for the use of leisure time which will turn a potentially dangerous factor into a constructive factor that will bring joy unto the lives of your citizens.

An Error Corrected

On page 448 of the December issue of RECREATION the third line of the third paragraph should read: "received eighty cents per day" instead of "received eight cents."

The Camping Magazine

If you are interested in

The leadership of youth.
The swiftly changing methods in organized camping.
The statements of leading thinkers on education through camping.
Leadership training—Counsellor's Education.
Camp Programming—Administration.
Outdoor Sports and Activities.
New Games, Land and Water.
Swimming—Canoeing—Sailing.
Riding—Archery—Riflery.
Woodcraft—Indian Lore—Nature.
Arts and Crafts—Dancing—Stunts.
Council Fires—Story Telling.

Then read the Camping Magazine regularly

Send for a sample copy \$2.00 a year.

Lane Hall, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dept. R

The Intercollegiate Outing Club Association

(Continued from page 515)

most valuable of the I.O.C.A.'s activities. Dartmouth held the first meeting on top of Mt. Moosilauke; Yale held the second at the Yale Engineering Camp in East Lyme, Connecticut, and New Hampshire University held the 1934 conference at Swanzy Lake, New Hampshire, with seventy-six delegates from twenty-one colleges present. These were worth while group discussions of various outing club problems, such as finance, publicity, winter sports, campus support, trips, cabins and trails, equipment, etc. The annual business meeting of the association takes place on Saturday evening. Following it a guest speaker of prominence addresses the delegates. To judge by the number of outing clubs that are reorganizing it is apparent that the older and stronger ones are assisting materially in improving the clubs in general.

The I.O.C.A. also sponsors a College Week of mountaineering and camp life before the colleges open in September. In 1932 College Week was held at the Appalachian Mountain Club Shelter at

Dr. Myron T. Scudder

On December 28, 1934, Dr. Myron Tracy Scudder died of pneumonia at his home in New York City. Dr. Scudder was one of the small group of men and women who on April 12, 1906, met with Dr. Luther Halsey Gulick and Dr. Henry S. Curtis to establish the National Recreation Association, then known as the Playground Association of America.

While serving as principal of the State Normal School at New Paltz, New York, Dr. Scudder conducted a county play day which received recognition far and wide. Dr. Scudder was one of a small group of educators who early recognized the importance of play in education. Throughout his long life of useful service Dr. Scudder maintained his interest in the recreation movement.

Great Gulf in the Presidential Range of the White Mountains. The 1934 College Week will be held in the same place from September 8th to 15th. Last year it was held in the Mt. Marcy region of the Adirondacks. Each club gets its own group together with its own supplies and equipment. A definite place is designated as a base, but each group is free to come and go as it pleases. This feature furnishes opportunity for a splendid fellowship without the necessity of being obliged to move about with too large a crowd.

Joint trips are likewise a very popular innovation, especially between the men's and women's colleges. One club invites another to send some of its members for a week-end with a few of its group, generally held at the hosts' or hostesses' cabins. The time is spent delightfully in activities of the outing type, and a splendid spirit of comradeship is being developed among those who participate.

A New Method of Protecting Ice Rinks

(Continued from page 519)

joyed eighteen nights and eight days of fine skating on the burlap shaded rink. In 1931-32 there were fifty-seven days of good ice and in 1933, sixty-three days.

Business men, high school boys, and juniors have formed hockey teams at many places in the Rocky Mountains, including Golden, Boulder, Denver, Longmont, and Fort Collins, Colorado, and at Laramie, Wyoming, and they all participate in tournaments all over the region.

In the summer team members are kept busy mending and sewing burlap for curtains. With a simple homemade rack twenty by three feet, equipped with nails along each side, the workers stretch a double thickness of the burlap or a sack that is three feet wide and then sew the ends together with stout cord and a wool sack needle. The sacks are lifted from the nails and moved along as the cross-seams are completed.

Seldom has a sport furnished so much pleasure to spectators and players at so little expense as has the ice hockey of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Suggestions For Conducting Social Games

(Continued from page 520)

boring. When the group starts to lose interest in a game, announce a limit to the time that it will be continued. Render quick decisions on rules when necessary.

4. **Help Rotate the Ones Who Are "It."** The question sometimes arises as to whose turn it is in those games where someone is "it." In such cases the leader should quickly decide, giving the turn preferably to someone who has not previously been chosen or who has not had the chance to be "it."

SUBSCRIBE \$1.00 YEAR

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

A Journal of Community Religion

RICHARD E. SHIELDS, Editor

How to Unite Churches

Articles by writers of

The Community Church Movement

Vital News. Religious Digest

TWICE MONTHLY EXCEPT SUMMER

Published by

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH WORKERS, U.S.A.

77 West Washington Street, Chicago

5. Let a Change in Games Seem Spontaneous.

It is sometimes better not to have it seem as if the whole evening has been budgeted and that the leader is deciding all of the games. The latter fault can be avoided by having someone primed to suggest a game that was previously agreed upon with the leader. Or the leader can himself say: "Someone has suggested that we play such and such a game," rather than directly indicate that it was his idea. At a more informal party suggestions may just as well come from the group especially when the games are well known.

RECREATION LEADERS DO YOU KNOW EVERYTHING

going on in your field and in the closely allied
fields of **health** and **physical education**?

There is no better way of keeping up-to-the-minute than by perusing the leading articles of the month, condensed for easy reading in the

PHYSICAL EDUCATION HEALTH and RECREATION DIGEST

"An article a day; a dollar a year."

Send only a dollar (or ask us to bill you) for a year's subscription.

The DIGEST
29 Exeter St.
Boston, Mass.

NEW SONG SHEETS AVAILABLE

Songs for Informal Singing

\$.10 per copy; \$7.50 per 100

- This sheet contains words and melodies of the songs which were sung at the Twentieth National Recreation Congress.

Selected Hymns—For the Church, Home, School, Camp, Club or Community Gathering

\$2.10 per 100

- The thirty hymns chosen for this leaflet together offer a rich and stimulating variety of fine feelings and ideas that can make hymn singing a most inspiring and enjoyable experience.

National Recreation Association

315 Fourth Avenue
New York City

6. Do Not Explain New Games At Length. For a large gathering it is better to give a few individuals the instructions beforehand or while the rest are already occupied with some other activity. Let those who know the game start it; the others are likely to learn very quickly by watching. Special points can be explained as they come up rather than all at the beginning.

7. Do Not Win Too Often. This also applies to losing. Since the games are for diversion, in certain games the element of winning should not enter in too strongly. An entertaining player, and especially the leader, will endeavor to make the game more amusing at times by permitting himself to be made "it," or when the game is too easy, by pretending that it is difficult. Certain individuals can let themselves be eliminated when it is desirable to speed up the game.

8. Avoid Making People Feel Self-Conscious. Many games derive their entertainment or fun-value through making certain individuals the "goat." In starting such games, pick for "it" those individuals who will not take offense or be bashful. Plan to work in the more timid persons gradually and casually.

9. Select Participants Rather Than Call for Volunteers. This suggestion applies to games which require only a limited number of the group. Many people will not volunteer speedily or without coax-

ing and this naturally slows up the game. Also, through selecting the participants, the bashful and the less popular individuals are given more opportunity to take part. Announce the name of the game *after* the players have been obtained because otherwise someone will usually refuse to play. People are frequently reluctant to participate when they know what is to be played, whereas they may be more willing to try a new or an un-announced game.

Municipal Rose Gardens

(Continued from page 529)

the hybrid perpetuals should not be pruned quite as hard as the teas and hybrid teas.

The hardy climbers that produce large flowers are not pruned very hard. Each spring cut back only the side growths on the canes which may be kept three or four years if they are healthy and in good condition. Once in a while, tie in a strong young cane to replace an older one. Dead wood and weak growths should be removed.

The small flowered climbers or ramblers bloom best on canes which grew the previous season. As soon as the flowering period is over, cut out the canes which have borne flowers near the ground or down to the place where a strong new cane is pushing out on the older one. Tie a few of these new canes to the supports as they grow. They will produce flowers the following season.

The shrub roses need only to have some of the older canes cut out occasionally to keep the plants in good shape. Allow them to assume their natural habit of growth, removing only dead and weak wood each spring.

Spraying

Give all roses a spray of bordeaux mixture or lime sulphur just as soon as the pruning is completed early each spring. Just as soon as the buds start growing a regular program of weekly spraying should be started and kept up throughout the season until fall. Use bordeaux mixture to keep in check such diseases as black spot and mildew, and nicotine sulphate to control aphids.

Pyrethrum extract sprays seem to discourage rose bugs. Soot from the chimney raked into the surface soil around the roses is also helpful in preventing damage from rose bugs.

Labeling

Much of the value of a municipal rose garden in encouraging the public to plant roses in their own gardens will be lost if the roses are not **clearly and correctly** labeled. Neat wooden labels eight or ten inches long and two inches wide,

painted a buff color and lettered with green paint, make a good label. They should be attached to strong iron rods three feet long. Place them in the beds so that they stand eighteen inches above the soil.

The Public Library in the Program of Leisure Time

(Continued from page 531)

fourth and last category of hobbies) says: "To certain types of minds study is the most fascinating pursuit in the world. An education is not necessary. By this means you can educate yourself. Thousands of men have done it, some of them becoming world authorities in their subjects." Ten years ago libraries began to give especial attention to the self-student. Now there are over fifty public libraries with specially qualified readers' advisers on their staffs whose job is to give unhurried, sympathetic, and confidential hearing to any individual with a desire for a self-study program, to help him map out such program or reading course, and to continue to act as his individual adviser and consultant as he goes through the various stages of his self-study course.

Unlimited courses of study. Most of the applicants to such readers' advisers want general cultural background, a reading course to compensate inadequate formal education, general brushing up and study to keep apace with their world. The study topics of others range from rabbit raising to the Einstein theory. A person's range of study is not limited to the courses offered in local classrooms if there is a good library with a readers' adviser in town. Even the readers' adviser is not a downright necessity. Most public libraries of any size are interested and informed enough in this broadspread emphasis on informal education through reading to provide some readers' advisory service with their existing trained staff, even though their budgets do not allow the employment of an extra person for this service.

Education becomes recreation. In Section IV on "Learning things" in Mr. Calkins' "Finding list" he says: "After all you have two of the three requisites of education, books and your own observation. The only other one is guidance—that is, a teacher. In study followed as a recreation you supply the guidance; you educate yourself." It is exactly here that the modern public library may make a contribution to recreational study that perhaps will not be made by the formal classroom;

READ

LEISURE

THE MAGAZINE OF A THOUSAND DIVERSIONS

For Inspiration and Ideas in Planning Your Leisure-Time Programs

LEISURE appeals individually to everyone who wants to get the most out of life. It is packed full of countless substitutes for boredom. Every month its pages point to new and interesting things to do, featuring pleasurable activities in season.

LEISURE is the only magazine catering to the leisure tastes of every member of the American family. It is educational without being scientific. It opens the way to better living and greater happiness. You find new introductions to Games—Sports. Hobbies—Collections.



Photography . . . Creative Arts, Puzzles, Dramatics, Travel, Music, Hand Crafts, Nature Study, and many other subjects.

**INSTRUCTIVE
ENTERTAINING
STIMULATING**

Clean from Cover to Cover

Parents, Educators, and Civic Leaders are unreserved in their praise of **LEISURE**

"A copy of **LEISURE** in every home would be a Godsend to folks who have never before had the time for recreation, nor the education for its use." R. A. Hoyer, Director, Dept. of Boy Guidance, Graduate School, Notre Dame University.

"A magazine like yours can do much to save our young people from finding unwholesome outlets for their surplus energies by putting before them in attractive and authoritative form the many fields of activities which will satisfy their cravings for adventure, for creation, for co-operation, and for leadership." Ernest Hermann, Dean, Sargent School of Physical Education.

"We have enjoyed the magazine very much and feel that it is of value in programs such as ours." Louise Goodyear, Girl Scout Peace House, Buffalo, N. Y.

"Your magazine has been recommended to me by the State Department of Education." F. A. Bell, Supt., Amador County Schools, Cal.

"It is a bully magazine and made a great hit with the kids as well as Dad." John F. Brosnan.

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER TO
READERS OF RECREATION**

15 months only - \$1.00

FILL IN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, SEND BILL, CHECK, STAMPS OR M. O. (Canadian or Foreign Post—50c. extra).

LEISURE, 683 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass.

Please send your special 15 months offer—\$1.00 enclosed.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

the library supplies guidance to the books. From there on "you educate yourself." That allows the recreational element to be preserved. It is informal education, a type which sustains enthusiasm and develops initiative in the learner.

It is hoped that this sketchy catalog of library resources will suggest to planners in the leisure-

New Tested Plays for Your Drama Program:

- **Contest Winning One-Act Plays —**
Not Only the Guppy. Just Till Morning.
And Sendeth Rain. Without First Aid.
Sheep
- **Plays for Children's Theatres —**
The Emperor's New Clothes. Cinderella.
The Sleeping Princess. The White Peacock.
- **New Non-Royalty Plays —**
Marrying Martin—3 act Comedy
Taps—Patriotic Drama in 1 act

These and over 50 other new tested plays by outstanding writers are fully described in the Spring Issue of . . .

PLAYS OF THE MONTH

Also in this issue: Articles by *Dean Ralph Dennis*, Northwestern University School of Speech, and *Carl Glick*, Little Theatre Columnist.

*Send your name and address today
for your free copy to*

Frederick B. Ingram Productions, Inc.
Gansert Building Rock Island, Illinois

time and recreational fields that libraries should be called on and drawn into these activities more and more. The library is perhaps too often associated with the cloister and the task-like school in the public mind and it will be more appreciated and used as reading comes to be thought of as recreation rather than a chore. The modern librarian is ready and anxious now for this change, anxious to get into the developing life of the community. The more demands made on him in the leisure-time and informal education fields, the more reason and incentive he will have for expanding his service in those directions.

An Old-Fashioned Valentine Party

(Continued from page 535)

A Valentine Menu:

- Hearty Helping* (Creamed Shrimp in Heart Timbales)
- Cupid's Relish* (Olives)
- Pan's Delight* (Hot Biscuits)
- Juno's Hearts* (Heart shaped cookies)
- Love Potion* (coffee)

"Backward, turn backward, O time in your flight
Take us back twenty years, just for a night,
Bring back the joys that we once used to know,
Bring back the scenes of two decades ago."

New Trends in Park Planning

(Continued from page 539)

while they are still alive. Why wait until a man is dead before you honor him? University City, Missouri, has a park named for every one of its former mayors, named while the man was still alive. This movement should be encouraged.

These are only a few of the present day trends in park planning. The discussions of the past few days before this Institute have brought before you many others, some of greater importance than those mentioned here. That new tendencies are numerous is but proof of the rapidly changing conditions of the times; the necessity for all park men to be alert for new solutions to these new problems is vital.

A County Recreation Exposition

(Continued from page 540)

Y.W.C.A.; Westchester County Air Pilots Association, and the Animal Protective League, Archery Association, Choral Society, Camera Club, Drama Association, Park Commission, Recreation Camps, Trails Association, Badminton Association, Miniature Aircraft Association, Philatelists' Association of Westchester County, and the Westchester Workshop.

The following recreation commissions were represented: Eastchester, Elmsford, Hastings, Mount Kisco, Mount Vernon, North Tarrytown, North Castle, New Castle, Ossining, Port Chester, Tarrytown, Valhalla, White Plains and Yonkers; and the Mamaroneck Adult Activities Council.

A Field House 100 Percent "Play-full"

(Continued from page 544)

from the same source. The only cost for material was that involved in hauling.

Everything on a playground should suggest the thought of play and should contribute to it. Much of our standard building design and construction does not do this and often impedes play. This is the reason for much of the rough treatment which so many buildings receive.

Many of the most effective playgrounds must be located where land is valuable. The type of construction described supplies two or three story space and keeps the building "low and inconspicuous," a requirement for many buildings, among them the recreation buildings in Central Park, New York City.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

The Challenge of Leisure

By Arthur Newton Pack. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.00.

MR. PACK's book is indeed a challenge, and everyone interested in the leisure time field will be grateful to him for presenting the subject in so thought-provoking and stimulating a way. Mr. Pack points out that leisure is no mere by-product but an end in itself to be developed fully and constructively as a creative impulse and opportunity. He emphasizes the possibilities which lie in increased leisure and its use in connection with agriculture, nature, sports, the arts, literature, education and human relationships. He takes a stand for wide guidance and direction of leisure. "Its mere existence is not enough." He pleads for a conception of leisure which will give it "some undiscovered social value and economic value in terms of human living." "Leisure," he says, "is an indispensable part both of economics and social existence—it is the greatest of all the challenges to the leaders of civilization."

Fun O' the Fair

By Kenneth Grahame. J. M. Dent and Sons, London. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. \$.50.

THOSE WHO FOLLOW the wandering trails in the caravans which play so important a part in the little village fairs of the countryside of England, are delightfully described in this booklet. And the amusements which make up a country fair are so alluringly enumerated that the reader has indeed lost the spirit of youth who does not wish he might share in this feature of spring in England.

The Wise Choice of Toys

By Ethel Kawin. The University of Chicago Press. \$1.00.

THIS exceedingly informational booklet is an outgrowth of an exhibit of toys held last year under the auspices of Marshall Field and Company of Chicago and the University of Chicago. Toys were grouped in the exhibit primarily on the basis of their use or function. The exhibit was accompanied by lectures and by consultation with a child psychologist. At the close of the first exhibit numerous requests were received for copies of Miss Kawin's lectures and to meet this demand an arrangement was made with the University of Chicago Press for their publication. The lectures deal with the wise choice of toys, their classification according to developmental powers along certain lines, play materials for arts and crafts, and personality needs.

Nature Chats

By John Harvey Furbay, Ph.D. Science Press Printing Co., Lancaster, Pennsylvania. \$1.75.

HERE is a chronicle of nature's year, presenting fifty-two essays—one for each week of the year. With its extensive appendix containing outlines and suggestions for practical nature study during each season, it is an

excellent guide for teachers, Scout leaders, recreation workers and all who wish to know the out-of-doors. "Nature study is not merely the finding of facts and learning of names. It is in the last analysis the finding of life itself, and its true meaning."

Art Adventures with Discarded Materials

By Evadna Kraus Perry. Wetzel Publishing Company, Inc., Los Angeles, California. \$2.00.

"IN the trash box and rag bag lie thrilling adventures and unsuspected happiness," says the author in her preface. And in proof of her statement she describes many fascinating things to be made from newspapers and wrapping paper, magazine advertisements, paper bags and flour sacks, old stockings, cardboard boxes, tin cans, scrap lumber, spools and other old materials. Miss Perry's book comes at a time when it can be used to the greatest possible advantage.

The Design of Residential Areas

By Thomas Adams. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass. \$3.50.

THIS book is Volume 6 of the Harvard City Planning Series, which deals with various phases of man's arrangement and use of his environment. It is in two sections, the first of which discusses basic considerations which affect developments of land for housing in all urban areas, the other dealing with broad principles and methods of design. Commenting on the section devoted to basic considerations, Mr. Adams states: "I think too much research in city planning has related to mere fact finding regarding existing conditions and to attempts at working out projects that accept these conditions as inevitable without inquiring as to whether it would not be better to ignore them because of their false foundations." The section dealing with principles and methods of design contains detailed discussions of such questions as elements in the neighborhood plan, lot costs and home neighborhood patterns. One of the factors discussed is the amount, types and distribution of public open spaces. "The total area of the general park system should not be less than 10% of the total area of the city." In discussing the neighborhood plan, however, it is estimated that "as an ideal arrangement not less than 15% of space should be kept open in parks and playgrounds, 10% being provided at the cost of the community at large and 5% contributed by owners for local use in residential areas."

Among the various questions discussed are the relation between open space and block planning, interior block parks and the general park system. The many plans and illustrations and the carefully prepared index add to the usefulness of this volume which, in view of the nationwide interest in housing developments, should be of interest to thoughtful recreation workers.

Stamp Collecting.

By Henry Renouf, Little Book No. 14. Leisure League of America, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York. 25¢

In its fourteenth publication the Leisure League of America has taken up a subject which is close to the hearts of many individuals. The appeal this hobby makes to all the world, may be due to the fact that "it helps to satisfy that yearning for the unknown, that longing for strange and far away places which so few of us can ever satisfy." Whatever the basis of its appeal, stamp collecting has been going on for over ninety years, as the author points out in a chapter entitled "In the Beginning," which gives an interesting history of the development of the hobby. Other chapters deal with "The Background of Collecting," "Our Accessories," "Specializing," "Identification," "So-Called Technicalities" and "Definitions." There are a number of unique illustrations. Every stamp collector will want this booklet.

Achievement Scales in Physical Education Activities
—For Boys and Girls in Elementary and Junior High Schools.

By N. P. Neilson and Frederick W. Cozens. California State Department of Education, Sacramento.

This study represents an important addition to our present set of measuring instruments. There is constant need with the changes which have taken place in the program of physical education, for more accurate information about the capacities and abilities of pupils. The study was a state-wide project in which more than 79,000 boys and girls were tested in various events. Part I is devoted to a discussion of the classification of pupils and instruments for giving the tests; Part II deals with achievement scales for boys and girls, and Part III with suggestions on competition and techniques used in the construction of the scales.

Board Members' Manual.

Prepared by the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, Inc. Published by The Macmillan Co., New York. \$1.25.

In line with the growing interest in the education of volunteers, including members of boards, is the "Board Members' Manual" prepared by the National Organization for Public Health Nursing. The purpose of this publication is to serve as a handbook of reference for boards of directors of non-official public health nursing organizations. A feature of the publication is the attention given to affiliated health groups such as the Red Cross and the medical profession. There are chapters on the following topics: Fundamental Principles, How to Organize, The Association, Officers—Qualifications and Duties, Committees, The Board and Finance, Board Meetings, Developing Rural Nursing, The Board's Relation to the Staff, Regulations of Service, Relation to Medical Profession, Relationship to National Organizations. The appendix includes among other things an outline of training institutes for board members. The book contains a bibliography for reference reading and an adequate index. The introduction was written by Dr. George E. Vincent.

Call to Adventure.

Edited by Robert Spiers Benjamin. Greenberg Publisher, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

Boys and girls from ten to eighteen and possibly older ones, too, will find keen pleasure in these true tales of adventure set down by the men who actually experienced them. Among the tellers of the tales are such well-known names as Zane Grey, Lowell Thomas and Commander Frank M. Hawks. In all twenty adventurers have given us stories of the fascinating things they have done.

Enjoy Your Museum Series.

Edited by Carl Thurston. Esto Publishing Company, P. O. Box 46, Pasadena, California. 10¢ each.

This delightful series on sale at many of the museums of the country is rapidly growing. Fifteen books are now available covering a variety of subjects, among them the following: *How I Make a Woodcut*, by Rockwell Kent; *Cast of Great Sculpture*, by Lorado Taft; *Indian Pottery of the Rio Grande*, by Mary Austin; *American Furniture of the 18th Century*, by Walter A. Dyer.

Must A Nation Plan?

A Discussion of Government Programs by Benson Y. Landis, Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York City; \$2.00 cloth, \$1.25 paper.

Discussion groups in our schoolhouses and in our community centers necessarily will be considering various phases of the United States Government program; the reason why various policies have been adopted. The problem of recreation is so inclusive that it is fairly essential that recreation workers should stick pretty close to their own field. At the same time, as citizens in contact with many other citizens, they most earnestly desire full information as to what their government is doing and the reasons for the courses of action taken. Dr. Landis' book is well written, is easily read, will help each reader to be more intelligent about the present-day world in which he is living.

Officers and Directors of the National Recreation Association

OFFICERS

JOSEPH LEE, President
JOHN H. FINLEY, First Vice-President
JOHN G. WINANT, Second Vice-President
ROBERT GARRETT, Third Vice-President
GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY, Treasurer
HOWARD S. BRAUCHER, Secretary

DIRECTORS

MRS. EDWARD W. BIDDLE, Carlisle, Pa.
WILLIAM BUTTERWORTH, Moline, Ill.
CLARENCE M. CLARK, Philadelphia, Pa.
HENRY L. CORBETT, Portland, Ore.
MRS. ARTHUR G. CUMMER, Jacksonville, Fla.
F. TRUBEE DAVISON, Locust Valley, L. I., N. Y.
MRS. THOMAS A. EDISON, West Orange, N. J.
JOHN H. FINLEY, New York, N. Y.
ROBERT GARRETT, Baltimore, Md.
AUSTIN E. GRIFFITHS, Seattle, Wash.
CHARLES HAYDEN, New York, N. Y.
MRS. CHARLES V. HICKOX, Michigan City, Ind.
MRS. FRANCIS DELACY HYDE, Plainfield, N. J.
GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY, New York, N. Y.
H. McK. LANDON, Indianapolis, Ind.
MRS. CHARLES D. LANIER, Greenwich, Conn.
ROBERT LASSITER, Charlotte, N. C.
JOSEPH LEE, Boston, Mass.
EDWARD E. LOOMIS, New York, N. Y.
J. H. McCURDY, Springfield, Mass.
OTTO T. MALLERY, Philadelphia, Pa.
WALTER A. MAY, Pittsburgh, Pa.
CARL E. MILLIKEN, Augusta, Me.
MRS. OGDEN L. MILLS, Woodbury, N. Y.
MRS. JAMES W. WADSWORTH, JR., Washington, D. C.
J. C. WALSH, New York, N. Y.
FREDERICK M. WARBURG, New York, N. Y.
JOHN G. WINANT, Concord, N. H.
MRS. WILLIAM H. WOODIN, JR., Tucson, Ariz.